MID NORTH KENT EDITION
INCLUDING: BROMLEY, BEXLEY, DARTFORD, GRAVESEND, MEDWAY, MAIDSTONE AND SWALE

K O S

Free online @ www.kentnews.co.uk

KENT ON SUNDAY

Published by ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA Telephone: (01303) 817000

IT'S WHAT SUNDAYS ARE ALL ABOUT

No.428 December 5, 2010 On sale 90p

GRIDLOCK SOLUTION PLAN WILL COST YOU

£1.8 billion must to be raised for transport network improvements

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

AIRPORT-style landing charges at the Port of Dover form part of proposals to raise £1.8 billion for improvements to Kent's transport network.

Motorists returning to the UK from the Continent may be charged £5 a time under the plans, which were unveiled as part of Kent County Council's Growth without Gridlock strategy for the next 20 years.

It is hoped the estimated £250 million raised from the levy will go towards a number of major transport improvements across the region, including a £1bn third Thames crossing and a long-term solution to Operation Stack.

Other money-raising schemes include a road tax for foreign lorries, the banning of huge HGV 'belly fuel tanks' which means truckers don't need to fill up in the UK, and the continuation of tolls at the Dartford crossing.

KCC also plans to apply for cash from the Regional Growth Fund and from Europe.

While welcoming the need for improvements, Brian Dowell – secretary of the Kent branch of the Association of British Drivers (ABD) – said a port landing charge would not be popular.

"There's no way that should be introduced," he said. "People already pay to go across the Channel and back – that's what the port lives off.

"It may start at only £5, but charges

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

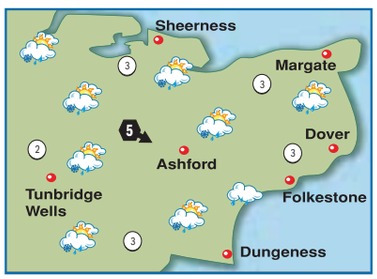
Picture: ROB BERRY

EXCLUSIVE Miliband interview as he faces KoS readers

FULL STORY – SEE INSIDE

* Includes all surcharges and taxes. See website for details and full terms and conditions.

Kent today



TODAY: Bright with lots of sun. Despite the sunshine it will be cold and temperatures will start to drop quickly in the evening. A moderate westerly wind. Max temp 1-4C (34-39F). **TONIGHT:** Largely dry and clear with a widespread severe frost. Gentle winds. Min temp -4 to -1C (25-30F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	snow	2	36	London	cloudy	3	37
Belfast	fair	4	39	Liverpool	fair	4	39
Birmingham	cloudy	2	36	Manchester	fair	3	37
B'mouth	cloudy	4	39	Newcastle	fair	1	34
Bristol	showers	5	41	Norwich	fair	2	36
Cardiff	cloudy	5	41	Oxford	fair	2	36
Cork	sun	3	37	Southsea	showers	5	41
Edinburgh	fair	2	36	S'hampton	cloudy	3	37
Glasgow	fair	3	37	Southport	fair	4	39
Isle of Man	fair	6	43	Swansea	fair	5	41
Leeds	fair	1	34	Torquay	showers	6	43

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.45am	Sunset	3.47pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	7.39am	Moonset	3.20pm	3.47pm to 7.46am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	10.15	6.6	22.42	6.5	11.01	6.6	23.26	6.6
Margate	11.11	4.7	23.34	4.6	11.57	4.7	–	–
St Mary's	03.51	5.5	16.15	5.5	04.36	5.7	16.59	5.5

Week ahead

monday Sunny spells. max 3C min-3C

tuesday Sunny spells. max 2C min -3C

wednesday Sunny spells. max 6C min -3C

thursday Sunny spells. max 5C min -2C

friday Sunny spells. max 6C min -2C

saturday Sunny spells. max 5C min -1C

- **EDITOR:** Ian Patel
- **ADDRESS:** Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS.
- **WEBSITE:** www.kentnews.co.uk
- **MOBILE WAP SERVICE:** www.kentnews.co.uk/mobile
- **TELEPHONE:** 01303 817100
- **ADVERSTISING:** 01303 817000
- **FAX (ADVERTISING):** 01303 817001
- **FAX (EDITORIAL):** 01303 817002
- **EMAIL:** EDITORIAL: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk ADVERTISING: sales@kosmedia.co.uk

KOS Media is a division of ARCHANT REGIONAL

© 2010 KENT ON SUNDAY.
Printed by Archant Print.

'It's time to give motorists a break'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

like that always go up, and you don't want to put people off using the port."

Launched at County Hall on Wednesday, the Growth without Gridlock strategy is a wish-list of improvements which the council says would solve some of the problems stunting economic growth in Kent.

These include the £45m 'dualling' of the A21 between Tonbridge and Pembury, development of a £40m Thanet parkway station serving Manston airport, and a £500m scheme to improve traffic flow on the M2 and M20 corridors.

Simon Chapman – chief economist of the Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association – welcomed the need to tackle congestion in Kent.

He said: "Kent is an international gateway which sees a lot of traffic passing through its ports and on its roads and motorways, and with this traffic comes problems linked to congestion which can affect businesses, residents and the logistics sector.

"For example, the operating cost of an HGV delayed in traffic is about £40 an hour."

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said the authority had identified new revenue opportunities.

He added: "We recognise the days of big funding streams from government are over and have identified significant, new additional revenue streams for the country as a whole.

"If just a small proportion of this new income were to be used in Kent, we could fund all our major transport improvements and deliver better road, rail, bus and air transport across the county.

"In difficult times we have no option but to do things differently. All of the schemes identified in Growth without Gridlock will be vital to unlocking new jobs, new business and boosting new economic growth in Kent."

KCC believes its fundraising measures could generate more than £15bn over the next 20 years, which is far more than the £1.8bn needed for all the improvement schemes highlighted.

Sacrifice

The authority estimates that £154m of investment per year would be required if the entire strategy was given the go-ahead.

Mr Dowell of the ABD said: "The determination to do something about these long-standing problems is welcome, but the sticking point for us is how it will all be funded because everything points to tax charges and road pricing."

By far the most expensive project on the wish-list is the third Thames crossing at an estimated £1bn, which does not include the cost of building access roads.

KCC says motorists should also be charged to use the preferred new crossing, which is a tunnel linking Chadwell in Essex with land to the east of Gravesend.

However, it has been suggested increased toll charges at the Dartford crossing would help pay for automatic number plate technology that would eliminate the need for barriers at the proposed new tunnel.

Cllr Carter said: "What brasses motorists off is when they spend their money on tolls but don't see any of the benefits.

"If you live in Kent and work in Essex, then to have a system where you're not stuck in traffic for hours every week would be an enormous advantage. It's time to give motorists a break and for them to see some real transport investment in this county."

But Gravesham's Tory council leader Cllr Mike Snelling is opposed to the development potentially passing through Green Belt land.

He said: "We have never denied there is a problem of capacity at Dartford but we are utterly against a proposal which could sacrifice this borough's rural areas so needlessly.

"It can be argued that the most logical thing to do is increase capacity at the existing crossings in Dartford and overcome air quality issues there by getting rid of the toll booths."

Visit www.kent.gov.uk to read the full strategy document.

Lib Dems call on Clegg to honour uni fees promise

LIBERAL Democrat activists from Kent have added their names to a petition calling on Nick Clegg to oppose a controversial rise in university tuition fees, ***writes Steve Knight***.

The Deputy Prime Minister made a pre-election pledge to abolish the charges should his party win power, but is now accused of breaking his promise to voters by allowing his Tory colleagues in the Coalition to press ahead with the planned price hike.

Under the proposals, universities will be able to charge tuition fees of up to £9,000 – almost three times more than the current cap – and Lib Dem activists fear their integrity will be put at risk unless all the party's MPs vote against them.

More than 100 Lib Dem politicians who lost out in the General Election have now signed a petition calling on Mr Clegg to oppose the plans.

"If you stand on an election platform and make a pledge then that's something you have to honour," said Shepway councillor Peter Carroll, who stood in Maidstone and the Weald. "I made that very promise myself and it would be inconceivable that I would break it, so it would be a cataclysmic error of judgement if our MPs do.

"This issue is doing huge damage to our party, and it's more to do with trust than the actual tuition fee increases. There's a danger now that people will look at our party and say we are actually no different to the others. I have no idea which way Nick Clegg will vote but I hope and pray those close to him drive home the message that a pledge is a pledge."

Thousands of students have taken part in a series of high-profile demonstrations against the tuition fee increases, with the most recent held on Tuesday.

Lib Dem MPs are allowed to abstain in a vote on the issue – expected to take place before the end of the year – but the party's ministers may come under pressure to back the proposals.

While admitting he regrets going back on his pre-election promise, Mr Clegg has argued the new proposals are fairer than the current system as the level at which graduates will start to repay loans will rise to £21,000.

Other former Kent election hopefuls who signed the petition – entitled 'no to higher tuition fees, yes to Liberal Democrat integrity' – include Mr Carroll's wife Lynne Beaumont (Folkestone and Hythe), John McClintock (Chatham and Aylesford), and Alan Bullion (Sevenoaks).

Mr Bullion said: "It's not good enough to say 'oh well, the situation has changed'. We made a promise and we need to hold our hands up and try to honour that promise.

"We are all 100 per cent behind the Coalition but the message from the grass roots needs to get across because many people who voted Lib Dem in the General Election feel let down over this issue.

"We've always been a party that engages and involves all our members, and have always been highly democratic and made sure our voices are heard.

"That being said, I think this particular policy needs to be revisited because there may be some people who voted for us in the past who will not do so again."

Gravesend Grammar School for Girls
A Foundation School
Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195 Website:www.ggsg.org.uk
email: enquiries@ggsg.org.uk Headteacher : Mrs E. Wilson, BA (Hons)

INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR MIXED SIXTH FORM? 6th FORM ENTRY 2011
PLEASE NOTE REVISED DATE
6TH FORM OPTIONS EVENING TUESDAY 7th DECEMBER 2010 6.30 – 9.00 p.m.
Summer 2010 A-level results – 62% A*-B
"A good school which provides a quality education for all its pupils" (Ofsted)

Students and parents are invited to come and talk to current Sixth Formers and staff about the wide range of courses available at Advanced and Advanced Supplementary levels for September 2011.

The meeting is at the Main School site. Please note that no on-site parking is available

The evening will begin with a talk to all prospective students at 6.45 pm. Displays of work and resources will then be available to view and Staff and Sixth Formers will be present to answer any queries.

- Wide choice of A & AS level courses
- Proven record of success at A/AS level.
- AQA Baccalaureate available
- Exceptional Community Service opportunities
- Extensive Careers programme
- Strong system of support and guidance
- Friendly community
- Opportunities for taking on new responsibilities
- Purpose-built Sixth Form Study Area.
- Involvement in the 16+ Gravesham Consortium
- Range of Open University modules offered

Six degrees of hope for temporary thaw

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

AFTER almost a week of Arctic conditions and travel misery, frozen Kent could be about to thaw out as forecasters predict a break in the snowy weather.

Although temperatures will struggle to reach above freezing during the night next week, the Met Office said residents could see temperatures reach up to six degrees in the day time.

But a Met Office spokesman stressed they could not be absolutely certain there would be a long reprieve from the Siberian-type conditions.

A break would come as welcome relief to residents after days of chaos where more than 300 schools were shut, roads gridlocked and commuters stranded as snow hit the county.

While children took advantage of the unusually cold November weather – where some of the lowest temperatures for this time of year were recorded in parts of the UK – Kent's workforce, particularly in the north, west and rural areas of the county, struggled against the elements to get to their desks.

Emergency services were out in force and severe weather warnings in place urging people to stay indoors and only venture out if absolutely necessary.

Train services were also disrupted, leaving many unable to get home from London.

Around 60 people were stranded on Southeastern trains which broke down at Sevenoaks and Orpington on Tuesday night as a result of the severe weather.

One commuter, Benji Symes, was stuck on the train in the darkness until 3.30am.

"Southeastern made several attempts to reboot the engine to get it going, unsuccessfully, and so they eventually evacuated the train and took us into the station office," he said. "They said they would get buses to take us home, but they were not able to reach us."

The situation was no better on the roads, and hundreds of motorists were stranded for up to 10 hours on Tuesday night due to a jackknifed lorry on the A20, while emergency services struggled to clear the gridlocked traffic.

The icy conditions forced the Highways Agency to close the Dartford Crossing, causing significant delays on the A282 and traffic chaos was rife on the M20 and A2.

Operation Stack was implemented on Wednesday and Thursday, and freight drivers were told to stay out of the county.

Kent Police saw an exceptionally high volume of calls with the control centre handling almost 1,300 999 calls and a further 3,419 switchboard calls on Tuesday alone – more than New Years Eve, 2009.

Chief Inspector Simon Black said: "The number of emergency calls we received was almost double the number we would anticipate on a 'normal' day."

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust was inundated with call-outs due to falls and road accidents, and voluntary organisations including the Red Cross and St John Ambulance were drafted in to help ambulance crews.

While most were lucky enough to get back into the warmth, homelessness charity Porchlight worked with Canterbury City Council to help get 11 rough sleepers into temporary accommodation.

Kent Highways Services worked throughout the Arctic spell – where temperatures plunged below freezing – salting the county's roads.

There are 23,000 tonnes of salt held in eight depots across Kent and 63 salting lorries. Some 180 farmers with snow ploughs fitted to their tractors also helped.

And at Howletts Wild Animal Park zebras and other exotic animals could not have felt further away from the African plains, while gorillas were kept warm with jacket potatoes.

Picture: ED HILL

SNOW FUN: Will Triggs, 10, from Ashford made the most of things

Footie tourism's not coming home

KENT has missed out on a tourism bonanza after England's failed bid to host the 2018 World Cup.

Despite an impressive final push including speeches by David Cameron, Prince William and David Beckham on Thursday, football's world governing body Fifa decided it was Russia's turn to host the tournament.

And now Visit Kent – the organisation responsible for promoting the county to tourists – has been left to wonder what might have been.

"Our proximity to London would have given us a great opportunity to reap the benefits of an English World Cup, and that's why Fifa's decision is such a shame," said chief executive Sandra Matthews-Marsh.

"Visit Britain had already drawn up an action plan as to how we could take full advantage of the tournament being held here, and even if Holland and Belgium had won we still could have used it to attract visitors. But there's no way with Russia. It's too far."

Meanwhile, sports minister Hugh Robertson – the MP for Faversham and Mid Kent – said he did not understand how England had lost the bid.

Mr Robertson attended the announcement ceremony in Zurich, Switzerland, and added that the bid team had done everything in its power to secure the hosting rights.

He added: "We encouraged them to vote for football reasons. At the moment I don't understand, and the only possible explanation is the one given by (Fifa president) Sepp Blatter when he announced the decision, which was wanting to take football to new frontiers.

"I'm not sure I would say we were humiliated. Everybody saw our presentation and it was widely praised as being the best one the Fifa executive committee received. We now need to go away to understand why this happened."

Meanwhile, the Middle Eastern country of Qatar – deemed a "high risk" option by Fifa inspectors – was selected for the 2022 World Cup.

Fan staying in jail for Christmas

AN ENGLAND fan from Faversham jailed for taking part in a football riot will not be released in time for Christmas.

Garry Mann's bid for an appeal for a state pardon has been rejected by state legislators.

His family, including partner Suzanne Lloyd-Baker and his six daughters, have been left devastated by the news. They had hoped Mr Mann, 52, would serve the remainder of his two-year sentence in a British prison.

The ex-firefighter was jailed following the violence in the Algarve during the 2004 Euro football championships.

Mann has always maintained his innocence, saying he was convicted by a 'kangaroo court' in a language he did not understand.

He was sent back to Portugal following a lengthy extradition process under the new European arrest warrant system.

PLANS for a cross-border clampdown on law-breaking foreign motorists have been dealt a blow by the Government.

Transport minister Mike Penning is refusing to ratify a deal that would allow police to punish drivers for traffic offences committed outside their home country.

Kent in particular suffers from the problem on the M20 and M2 due to the high volume of foreign motorists who enter the county via Dover or the Channel Tunnel.

Mr Penning said there were still issues that needed to be addressed, including the cost and legal responsibilities of such a scheme.

AROUND 400 jobs are at risk at Royal Mail as the company prepares to move four of its sorting offices to a new flagship centre.

The facility, based in Rochester, will start operating in 2012 and will replace mail centres in Canterbury, Dartford, Tonbridge and Maidstone.

Royal Mail, which employs around 3,700 workers in the county, said the move was a result of the decline in people sending letters, but the company hoped to avoid compulsory redundancies.

provider

Show you care, give the perfect gift.

Choosing the perfect gift takes time. To make this easier, we are now open week days until 9pm.

For all extended opening hours please visit johnlewis.com/tunbridgewells or call 01892 506830. We also offer a free Click and collect service which allows you to make an order by 7pm and have it delivered to your chosen shop after 2pm the following day.

Never Knowingly Undersold
on quality | on price | on service

John Lewis
johnlewis.com

Pickles slams KCC over its 'Fort Knox' cash reserves

COUNTY Hall finance chiefs have admitted storing £115 million in cash reserves despite mounting strain on public services.

It came after communities secretary Eric Pickles urged councils to dip into "piggy bank" funds to cover short-term financial challenges.

But finance bosses at Kent County Council stressed the reserve money was vital in ensuring any unexpected losses through Government grant reductions, to be announced next week, were covered.

Mr Pickles said some councils were acting like "Fort Knox" and insisted that residents would be shocked to find local authorities had billions of pounds in their bank accounts when there were weekly scare stories about cuts to jobs and services.

KCC cabinet member for finance Cllr John Simmonds said until the authority was certain of how much it could lose, the reserves would be treated with caution.

"We're not being precious about it, we need to wait on the Government situation," he said. "Earlier this year we had to find £15.5 million and we were able to take the bulk of that out of the various reserves.

"It's important the money is there so we can protect key services. With the level of uncertainty where we could find ourselves short we are not going to start spending the money until the situation from Government is clearer."

SPEND: Eric Pickles wants councils to use their savings

The £115m includes a general reserve of £25m-26m and £8.8m in economic downturn reserves. The remaining £82m covers specific areas including capital programme, schools and dilapidation funds.

Cllr Simmonds said: "We understand what Eric Pickles is saying, but we are not keeping this money for the sake of it – we need to make sure services, such as protecting vulnerable children and adults, are safe.

"We have to be very cautious – we don't know what is going to happen."

In its autumn budget statement, KCC revealed the authority must find an additional £25m in savings in the next two years. This forms part of the £340m savings needed at KCC over the next four years, where up to 1,500 posts will be cut.

Charity work 'too easy' on offenders

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CRIMINALS ordered to perform community service as punishment are getting off with being sent to work in charity shops.

Despite the commonly-held view convicted felons should be forced to carry out tough jobs in full view of the public, a report into Kent Probation shows that many are instead getting an easy ride. Last year the county's offenders completed 279,231 hours of unpaid work, of which about half was in charity shops.

The findings form part of a study by the Policy Exchange think tank, which describes community payback as "the weak link in the sentencing chain" due to its high breach rates and lack of focus on real punishment.

"We know that a third of community sentences are not completed and one in 10 is terminated due to re-conviction," said the organisation's head of crime and justice, Blair Gibbs.

"So in that sense the public are right to feel these sentences are failing, and the reality is that unfortunately community payback is not very effective as a punishment.

Expectation

"For instance in Kent the majority of placements were in charity shops, which is not really what the public would expect. Unless the community payback system is reformed then the public will continue to fund failure."

Justice Secretary Kenneth Clarke is due to publish a green paper on sentencing in the next fortnight which will introduce new private agencies, as opposed to probation services, to enforce tougher community orders.

According to Policy Exchange, about 250,000 crimes a year are committed by those who have recently completed a community order.

A YouGov poll showed that 60 per cent of the public think community sentences are a soft option, weak and undemanding, while just five per cent think they are good for rehabilitation.

Furthermore, less than 10 per cent think working in a charity shop is a worthy punishment. Cleaning streets (56 per cent) is the preferred option, followed by removing graffiti (44 per cent).

Kent Probation's operations director Alan Dowie said the service works with a range of organisations to make offenders pay back to the community.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: The public would prefer offenders to be removing graffiti instead of working in charity shops

"This is at the expense of the offender's liberty and free time," he added. "We make offenders do work that matches the needs of the community with the abilities of the offender. Helping charities to run their shops allows us to find suitable unpaid work for a wider range of offenders – at no additional cost to the public purse – while still giving back to the community."

Mr Dowie added that for some years Kent Probation has been running a campaign asking members of the public which jobs they want offenders to do.

See www.kentprobation.org for details.

Indecent images teacher struck off

A FORMER deputy headteacher convicted of possessing indecent images of a teenage pupil has been struck off the Social Care Register.

The decision by the General Social Care Council, the standards board for social workers, means William Whillock, 57, will not be able to practise as a social worker in the future.

The teacher, of Headcorn Road, Staplehurst, was the deputy head and in charge of child protection at The New School at West Heath in Sevenoaks when the offences against a 17-year-old girl took place.

The father-of-three admitted possessing 15 indecent images of the schoolgirl and was sentenced to a three-year community order.

The New School at West Heath was formerly an exclusive private school for girls, called West Heath, which counted Princess Diana among its former pupils.

Towns' city bid

MEDWAY Council chiefs have officially announced plans to compete with other towns across the country to win city status to mark the Queen's Diamond jubilee celebrations.

The five towns will now battle it out with the likes of Bolton, Reading, Milton Keynes and Croydon to become the country's newest city in 2012.

With four universities, a cathedral, two castles and a rich heritage, including the Chatham Dockyard, the area has long sought recognition as a city and has had bids turned down in 2000 and 2003.

Medway Council leader Cllr Rodney Chambers said: "We fully believe that with the squeeze on the public sector purse and the downturn in grants from central government, gaining city status would present us with a golden opportunity to gain yet more investment from the private sector."

Looking for ideas this Christmas?

See this weeks Kentish Christmas feature inside Review

KENT ON SATURDAY
KENT ON SUNDAY

THE INTERVIEW

BY TOM BETTS

Take a walk with ghosts

GRAHAME Bell is a man who loves his adopted home town, and especially its supernatural side.

He moved to Tunbridge Wells 20 years ago and it would be hard to find a person more smitten with where he lives, such is the enthusiasm in his voice when he talks about the place.

A keen amateur historian and one of the organisers of the popular Tunbridge Wells ghost walks, Grahame delves into his knowledge of the area frequently.

He started working on the walks 10 years ago with his friend Geoff Butler, whose idea it was in the first place.

Since then he has become one of its custodians and is still involved today.

He said: "I took over a business on the Pantiles and got to know Geoff. It was the old rocks, minerals and antiquities shop and had been open for 40 years, but we had to call it a day last year due to the economic climate.

"I quickly became interested in ghosts though after hearing so many stories. Geoff was interested in the stories when he first opened the shop in the 70s and it has gone on from there. It's strange as apparently the old shop is one of the most haunted premises on the Pantiles, yet Geoff or I never saw one there over the course of 40 years."

Grahame is a believer in the supernatural, but has a sceptical side.

He said: "If I were asked a straight yes or no whether I believe in ghosts then I would say yes, but with reservations.

"The term ghost is a generic name, I believe more in different types of apparitions and other goings-on that come under that heading. My suspicions have been confirmed in the last three months, though.

"I saw a woman in a nightdress fleetingly in my flat. I put that down to the fact that she might have died there, and was doing what she might have done when she was alive. I wonder if there is some kind of time warp aspect to things; that we see things that are happening, things that have happened in the past. It's very curious.

SUPERNATURAL: Grahame Bell is the organiser of the Tunbridge Wells ghost walks which helps promote the area's rich history

"I think people see things all the time that they cannot explain or put down to figments of their imagination, when it could be a ghostly occurrence."

Grahame says that Tunbridge Wells' rich history is why it is home to so many supernatural goings-on and believes it could even beat the village of Pluckley near Ashford as having more spooks than anywhere else.

"Tunbridge Wells and the Pantiles could lay claim to being the most haunted part of Kent," he said.

"I know that's a controversial thing to say but it could be true. We know of 33 separate incidents that have been recorded. When we printed a book about it so many more people came forward and we had a dozen more to include. The town is 400 years old, and Tonbridge is more like 4000 years old. It means there is an enormous amount of history in the area. I feel that there is almost an "alternative society" living on the Pantiles. They are there, if we know or see them or not, and occasionally we see them."

Grahame says the ghost walks are run to promote The Pantiles' history.

"The Pantiles is a very vibrant place and educating people about its past, whether that is supernatural or just talking about its history, is always a joy. It's a very important part of Tunbridge Wells history."

To find out more about the Tunbridge Wells ghost tours, or to book, call Grahame on 01892 541377.

YOUR PERFECT FIREPLACE...
196-198 CANTERBURY ROAD, BIRCHINGTON CT7 9AQ
TEL: 01843 841922 FAX: 01843 844255
OPEN MON-SAT 9AM - 5PM

...WHATEVER YOUR STYLE...WHATEVER YOUR FUEL
FIREPLACES • GASFIRES • WOODSTOVES • CHIMNEY LINING • KILN DRIED LOG SUPPLIES
WWW.FIREPLACEANDSTONECENTRE.CO.UK
FIREPLACE & STONE CENTRE

Now all our GPs told to put off non-urgent operations in winter

By **MARIJKE COX**

A THIRD health trust has issued a winter ban on GP referrals for a range of hospital procedures.

Hernia operations, IVF treatment and obesity surgery are among a handful of treatments being suspended in a bid to save £95 million over the next four years at NHS Medway.

It is the last of Kent's three primary care trusts to write to doctors telling them not to refer non-urgent cases to hospital until April.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent revealed last month that 64 types of procedure were being put on the backburner, including hip and knee replacements, while NHS West Kent confirmed fertility treatment and weight loss surgery was being postponed.

The move has come under fire from GPs, but health bosses have stressed that action needs to be taken to tackle huge deficits.

An NHS Medway spokeswoman said: "We need to take further measures to ensure we use NHS resources more effectively, otherwise we will not be able to keep within our financial limits.

"For this reason, in line with many PCTs in the country, NHS Medway has written to its GPs asking them to delay referring people for some non-urgent procedures until the next financial year."

Couples seeking fertility treatment will have to wait until April, 2011, and people with morbid obesity will also have to wait until next year for bariatric surgery, such as gastric bypasses.

New referrals for gender reassignment are also being suspended over the winter.

The spokeswoman said: "These procedures affect a small number of people and we recognise that this will be hard for them, but we need to ensure we have the finances available for healthcare and prevention of ill-health for the majority of Medway's population."

As part of the efficiency drive, there will also be a limited use of agency workers plus 22 management redundancies.

Helen Buckingham, the new chief executive at the health body, said: "Our population is growing, especially among the elderly and people are living longer and benefiting from more complex and advanced medical procedures. This means demand for services and costs are increasing at a rate of about four per cent a year. The increase to NHS budgets will be approximately 0.1 per cent each year for the next three years.

"The financial impact of this difference over the next four years is about £20 billion nationally, and about £95m for Medway."

But the county's representative for the British Medical Association, Dr Paul Hobday, said stopping referrals was short-sighted.

"Obesity surgery, for example, is known to be very cost effective, increasing money in the long run," he said. "They are going about this completely the wrong way."

Foster Carer:

Did you know that fostering is a well paid professional job?

Next Step Fostering is looking for people with the commitment, compassion and strength of character to foster children as a full-time career.

As an Ofsted outstanding foster care provider, we offer a competitive rate of pay along with the highest levels of training and support possible.

So, if you have a spare room in your home and think you (or someone you know) can commit to working as a professional foster carer, please contact us.

Change your career, change a life.
Call 01634 838666 or visit
www.nextstepfostering.org

Ofsted Outstanding 2007 2008

next step fostering

Book online at www.heritageevents.co.uk or call 0845 652 62 62

Exit of KCC chief Gilroy cost twice the amount revealed to taxpayers

COSTLY: Peter Gilroy left KCC in May

A GOLDEN goodbye for Kent County Council's former chief executive cost taxpayers £408,000 – more than double the amount disclosed by the authority.

By **MARIJKE COX**

A report by the Audit Commission revealed that although Peter Gilroy walked away with £200,000 in May this year, the true cost to the council was considerably more.

The actual amount paid out was £408,000 when income tax and National Insurance contributions were taken into account, but this figure was not divulged to the public. The full cost was only revealed when the Audit Commission released its annual audit letter, discussed at a meeting at County Hall on Tuesday, criticising the authority for not presenting information adequately with regards to a number of senior staff payouts.

The letter stated: "Effective decision making and good governance requires decision-makers to be presented with appropriate and sufficient information to make an informed decision."

Auditors said County Hall's report in 2006 to the personnel committee recommending a payment of £200,000 to Mr Gilroy – who accepted an extension of his contract term to 2009 – "fell short" of the expected standards.

Disadvantaged

They said it was brief and only concentrated on the decision to agree a payment of £200,000, rather than looking at why or value for money.

They also stated the report did not set out the full cost to the council or explore alternative options, and it had not been shown to the finance director.

Mr Gilroy became chief executive in 2005, and KCC leaders defended his payout, saying it was based on solid financial advice and was designed to ensure his pension was not affected after he agreed to stay on as head of the council.

A KCC spokesman said to secure Mr Gilroy's extended service in November, 2006, the county council's all-party Personnel Committee unanimously agreed to a variation in his contract brought about by changes to pension laws.

"The Audit Commission's letter recognises that appropriate advice was sought to determine the financial impact on the chief executive if he extended his contract," the spokesman said.

"The payment of £200,000 (£408,000 including income tax and National Insurance) meant he was not disadvantaged by extending his contract as a result of changes to national pension legislation.

"The payment of £200,000 did not enhance his remuneration package and the Audit Commission's letter acknowledges this."

Mr Gilroy, who was described as an outstanding public servant and chief executive by KCC, was paid £214,000 in his salary last year. He received no bonuses for 2009-10, but was paid £10,615 in 2009-10 for performance in 2008-09.

"We believe the decision to make this payment was the right one, in order to secure the continued services of a chief executive who had delivered exceptional results for Kent County Council and for Kent residents," added the spokesman.

The Audit Commission's report laid out recommendations for future decision-making reports to provide a full, balanced picture of circumstances, record different options available and look at value for money.

The KCC spokesman said: "We accept the Audit Commission's recommendation and any report produced now would be more detailed.

"However, all the questions raised by the committee members at the time were answered in full and all information about the issue was made available to them.

"The Audit Commission's letter confirms that the decision taken was both lawful and reasonable."

Express Service for Dentures available before Christmas
Full set of Dentures from £295

CANTERBURY DENTURES DIRECT

■ Privately made ■ Excellent aftercare ■ Free consultations ■ Flexible dentures
■ Home visits available ■ Comfortable soft lining ■ Repair in one hour
■ All your denture needs ■ All work produced on premises ■ Disabled access

Canterbury Dentures Direct 01227 781188 www.canterburydenturesdirect.co.uk
e-shop www.denturesdirectsales.co.uk 17a Burgate, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2HG

"My husband and I separated last year. I was at a complete loss to know what to do. Whitehead Monckton were very caring and were able to help me arrange everything without us going to court. They also sorted out the mortgage and made sure I had a new will."

...whatever life throws at you
we will help protect your family

call us free on **0800 996 1292**

Whitehead Monckton
unique to Kent

Lawyers and Investment Managers

www.whitehead-monckton.co.uk

Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Whitehead Monckton 59423. Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

Maidstone
t. 01622 698000
Tenterden
t. 01580 765722

Advertiser's Announcement

The Kent Safeguarding Children Board (KSCB) is looking to recruit two representatives who are residents of Kent and members of the local community to become **Lay Members of the Board.**

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility and this is a great opportunity to help us ensure that all of our agencies are safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people across the County.

The KSCB is the statutory mechanism for the safeguarding and protection of children in the County. It sets out how agencies should work together to safeguard children and monitors how well they are doing. The board is made up of senior professionals from partner agencies that are responsible for safeguarding children such as Kent County Council Children Social Services and Adult Services, the police, schools and health agencies. Recent developments in legislation means that we are now required to appoint two local members of the community to the KSCB.

The Board usually meets up to 5 times a year and the role of **Lay Member** would involve:
- attendance at the board meetings
- preparation by reading papers in advance of the meeting
- taking part in discussions and decision-making at the board meeting

You will need to have:
- an understanding of working with children or young people
- an ability to communicate effectively within meetings
- confidence to ask questions and challenge people in a constructive way
- a commitment to promoting equality and diversity and improving the safety of children & young people in Kent.

As a Lay Member you would not be an employed member of staff. Lay Members are appointed for a period of 1 year, reviewable annually. Expenses will be reimbursed to cover travel.

We value equality and diversity and would welcome applications from all those in the community who share our commitment.

If you are interested in becoming a **Lay Member of the Board**, please contact Penny Davies, KSCB Manager on 01622 694856 for an informal discussion or an application form.

The successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced CRB check and suitable references.

Closing date for applications is Friday 31st December

KSCB
SAFEGUARDING THE CHILDREN OF KENT

19 primaries fail tougher tests

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

EDUCATION officials have defended the high number of primary schools failing Ofsted inspections, by claiming assessments have been made tougher.

In the last year 19 Kent schools were either put in special measures or served notices to improve, with a handful failing to make adequate progress in follow-up checks.

It is the second time this year the county's primaries have been under negative scrutiny, after SATs results showed pupil performance was lower than the national average.

Secondary education, however, continued to buck the national trend in 2010 with higher than average GCSE and A-level results.

Both Medway Council and Kent County Council defended the Ofsted ratings, claiming the bar had been raised. But Gravesend-based education adviser Peter Read said if Ofsted was raising standards, then councils should be doing the same.

"Medway Council must be very concerned about the number of failing primary schools. It is its responsibility to help improve standards," he said. "My question is: if Ofsted has raised the bar, then why aren't local authorities doing the same?"

A council official at Medway, where five schools fell short in inspections in 2009 and 2010, said the authority was working intensively with the schools. She also said two of the primaries had been taken out of special measures after follow-up inspections.

"We have taken robust action to secure immediate improvements in the remaining schools," she said. "We have recruited strong leaders, strengthened governing bodies and supported partnership working with good schools. We are already seeing the effects of this work in inspectors' follow-up visits.

"Recent monitoring visits show the schools are making good progress, with reports highlighting significant changes in pupils' attainment and teaching standards."

Cllr Sarah Hohler, KCC cabinet member for children, families and education, claimed in recent months the bar had been raised, with schools facing tougher inspections.

"Of our 447 primary schools, a small minority have been placed in special measures or been given a notice to improve because of more stringent checks," she said. "Kent is not alone in this. Schools across the country, which were previously adequate or better, have been asked to make improvements. We are right behind the schools."

Asked whether this could affect the number of primaries breaking away to become academies, Cllr Hohler said: "I get a sense that the support given to primary schools by KCC is one reason why there is not a significant appetite for them to become academies.

"While we will back any governing body that goes down that route, many feel supported by the current arrangements and are waiting to see how the programme develops."

The Medway Council spokeswoman said whether schools choose to become academies or not, the authority will continue to strive for the best education for all children.

"We work closely with all schools in Medway, including those that have already become academies, and will continue to do so," she said.

Primaries in special measures or given notice to improve in 2009-10 were:

- MEDWAY: Spinnens Acre Junior, Warren Wood – improving, Gordon Junior – out of special measures, St Margaret's Junior – improved, Skinner Street Junior – improved.
- CANTERBURY: Adisham, Northbourne.
- CRANBROOK: Brenchley and Matfield.
- DARTFORD: Temple Hill Community – improved.
- DOVER: Aylesham – improved.
- GRAVESHAM: Chantry – improving.
- MAIDSTONE: Oak Tree – improving.
- SEVENOAKS: Halsted.
- SHEPWAY: Morehall – improving, Dymchurch – improving.
- SWALE: Milton Court, Richmond, Bell Wood – improving.
- THANET: Christ Church.

Lorry driver jailed after postie death

A LORRY driver has been sentenced to 10 months in prison after running over and killing a postman.

STEVEN HOLE

Steven Hole, 45, of Farm Avenue in Swanley, appeared at Canterbury Crown Court on Monday after admitting causing death by careless driving and was told he will serve at least five months in jail.

Hole was at the wheel of an Iveco Eurocargo truck, travelling east along Marine Terrace in Margate at 3.45am on Friday, May 14, when it struck postman Mick Garner, who was cycling to work in front of him.

The 61-year-old from Margate, was thrown from his bike and suffered serious head injuries. He died later at the QEQM Hospital in Margate.

Hole was also given a three-year driving ban.

Michael Caines at ABode Canterbury

AMAZING GRAZE
Three course grazing menu ONLY £12.95
Grazing is a perfect way to explore Michael Caines' unique modern European cuisine.
Any additional dish from menu £6.50 each. Sommelier's additional 3 course wine selection £9.00 (75ml).
Available Monday – Saturday 12pm – 2.30pm

EARLY DINING
Two courses ONLY £15.95
Three courses ONLY £22.50
Tea coffee and petit fours ONLY £3.75
Available Monday - Saturday 6pm - 7pm.
Table reservations tel: 01227 826676
tablescanterbury@michaelcaines.com
www.michaelcaines.com

THE OLD BREWERY TAVERN

2 course lunch £9.95
2 course dinner £13.95
(weekly changing menu)
2 courses for 2 people plus bottle of wine to share
£26.00
(served Monday – Sunday 5-6.30pm)

The Old Brewery Tavern, Stour Street, Canterbury
Tel: 01227 826682

BT Autumn Deals
BT Total Broadband + Unlimited UK* Evening & Weekend calls = £13.99 a month
Line rental applies
Now FREE for 3 months
Call 0800 707 6049
bt.com/deals
BT Bringing it all together

All prices are correct at the time of going to print (Nov 2010) and include VAT at 17.5%. We will amend our prices on 4th January because of the revised VAT rate of 20% and rounding them where necessary to simplify our pricing. Offer ends 20/12/2010. Available to new BT Total Broadband customers signing up for 18 months and paying BT line rental, £13.29 with direct debit. Free for the first 3 months; £13.99 a month from month 4, plus line rental. Includes BT Total Broadband Option 1 and the Unlimited Evening & Weekend Plan. BT Home Hub optional – p&p charge of £4.99 applies. Subject to availability. *Means calls of up to an hour to numbers beginning 01, 02 & 03 excluding Channel Islands. Exclusions and conditions apply.

TOP UK comedians launched a stinging attack on social networking site Twitter against former Maidstone MP Ann Widdecombe.

Matt Lucas, Sue Perkins, and Marcus Brigstocke re-tweeted a message, started by another comedian Ray Peacock, which said: "Widdy denies climate change, opposes abortion, women priests and equal rights for homosexuals. Enjoy her ****ing dancing..."

Services cut as councils spent £16m on CCTV

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

CIVIL rights campaigners say Kent councils are "obsessed" with CCTV after spending a total of £16.3 million on the technology in just three years

Pressure group Big Brother Watch has criticised the county's 15 district authorities – including the London boroughs of Bexley and Bromley – claiming the cash would be better spent protecting vital public services.

The total figure for Kent represents 5.1 per cent of the £314.8m spent by 336 councils throughout the UK on the installation and operation of CCTV.

Big Brother Watch campaign director Daniel Hamilton said: "I think £16.3m is a particularly large amount in light of the massive spending cuts we are currently experiencing. Councils are cutting services left, right and centre, so to spend that much on CCTV is really excessive.

"The rise of CCTV cameras is a uniquely British obsession led by councils, and councils in Kent are very much part of that obsession."

According to figures released under the Freedom of Information Act, Bromley council has spent the most on CCTV since 2007, at £1.6m. Outside of London the highest-spending authority is Canterbury at £1.45m, closely followed by Thanet (£1.4m) and Medway (£1.2m).

Gravesham has spent the least at £577,940.

"We have no problem with the effective use of CCTV cameras for the right kind of purposes," said Mr Hamilton.

"In Kent we would actively support it at the ports of Dover and Folkestone because they are very important from a national security point of view. People would rather see more police on the streets, but instead they are being caught on camera an average of 300 times a day, which is a massive invasion of privacy."

The council which spent the most in the UK at a staggering £10.5m was Birmingham, which came under fire last June for using more than 200 cameras to spy on two Muslim areas of the city.

The Big Brother report – entitled The Price is Wrong – reveals there are currently about one council-owned CCTV camera for every 1,000 people in the country.

It also points out the Shetland Islands – with a population of just 22,000 – is home to more cameras than the entire San Francisco Police Department, which serves more than 1.2 million homes.

A Canterbury council spokesman criticised the Big Brother report as a "very shallow" comparison, adding that CCTV cameras provide year-round policing of town centres, help deal with alcohol-fuelled violence and identify people in need of help.

The spokesman added there had also been no effort to analyse the cost of the technology in terms of value for money.

Last May KoS revealed how hundreds of covert operations had been carried out on unsuspecting members of the public by Kent councils using anti-terror laws.

They authorised more than 430 actions under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act in two years, but just 28 prosecutions were secured for offences including fly-tipping, graffiti and underage alcohol sales.

HIGH COST OF CCTV

Council	Cost
BROMLEY	£1.63m
CANTERBURY	£1.45m
THANET	£1.4m
MEDWAY	£1.22m
TONBRIDGE & MALLING	£1.19m
SEVENOAKS	£1.15m
DOVER	£1.11m
BEXLEY	£1.03m
SHEPWAY	£1.01m
SWALE	£0.98m
MAIDSTONE	£0.98m
ASHFORD	£0.92m
DARTFORD	£0.88m
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	£0.73m
GRAVESHAM	£0.58m
	TOTAL £16.3m

CHARLTON ATHLETIC
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH (2PM)
v WALSALL
Adults £17, £22 & £25,
over 60s/U21s £13 & £17, U18s £5
Seats available on 0871 226 1905*
(Weekdays 9am–5pm, non-match Saturdays 9am–1pm)
Find out more or book online at www.cafc.co.uk

Valley Express return coach travel is available at just £7 per head from more than 50 different locations right across Kent
CHARLTON ATHLETIC VALLEY EXPRESS
FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO BOOK COACH PLACES, SEE WWW.VALLEYEXPRESS.CO.UK OR CALL 0871 226 1905*
*Calls cost 10p per minute from a BT landline. Calls from other networks and mobiles may cost more

France in just 35 minutes
EURO TUNNEL
Celebrate our
BREAKTHROUGH TO FRANCE
Day trip tickets for only
£20
per car, return*
HURRY! OFFER ENDS 8th DECEMBER
• Car and up to 9 passengers
• Up to 4 departures per hour
• Direct motorway access
Geotess: 483120
BOOK NOW!
0844 335 1647
eurotunnel.com/kos
*Valid on any Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 16 November to 9 December 2010. Subject to availability, terms and conditions apply.
FOLKESTONE · CALAIS

"My father had a stroke recently. Whitehead Monckton helped me sell his home so he could move in to a care home and sort out payment of his care costs with minimal fuss. They also made sure his finances are now protected for his ongoing benefit."
...whatever life throws at you
we will help protect your family
call us free on 0800 996 1292
Whitehead Monckton
unique to Kent
Lawyers and Investment Managers
www.whitehead-monckton.co.uk
Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Whitehead Monckton 59423. Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Services Authority.
Maidstone
t. 01622 698000
Tenterden
t. 01580 765722

Star-studded list of 'advisers' join cathedral appeal

CELEBRITIES like Joanna Lumley and Tenterden's Sir Donald Sinden are backing a major appeal by Canterbury Cathedral.

AID: Joanna Lumley

They are joining historians, artists and writers all keen to raise public awareness of the need to raise millions of pounds to keep the vital restoration work on the building going.

Best-selling novelist Ken Follett, historian Dr David Starkey and Archbishop Desmond Tutu are also among those who have become advisers to The Canterbury Gift.

Dr Robert Willis, Dean of Canterbury Cathedral said: "We are delighted to have the public support of all these individuals who share a love of Canterbury Cathedral.

"There are currently 17 advisers, and their numbers continue to grow."

Already signed up as advisers are conductor Steven Barlow; Harry Christophers of The Sixteen; Lord Patrick Cormack; artists Professor Edmund de Waal and John Doyle; historian Professor Ken Fincham of the University of Kent; Daily Telegraph commentator Simon Heffer; vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields and social campaigner the Reverend Nicholas Holtam; novelist and writer AN Wilson; businessman Lord Stevenson; and Mary Villiers, a trustee of the National Trust.

The Canterbury Gift is a charity that supports conservation, education, music and craftsmanship at Canterbury Cathedral.

For more information or to make a gift, phone 01227 865346 or visit www.thecanterburygift.com.

Charity has faith it can ease your debt

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

THE LAST thing people in Kent who are drowning in debt need is to pay for financial advice, which is why Christians Against Poverty has opened another branch.

Maidstone joins Folkestone and Welling as the faith-based service continues to expand.

The national charity said its latest service is at Bearsted Community Church and joined 150 others around the UK.

And with the number of those struggling against a mountain of cash problems rising, the charity said its free help can't come quick enough.

Its chief executive Matt Barlow said around 3,500 or more households across the Maidstone area could be struggling with debt.

HELP: Peter Holland

Manager of the new Maidstone centre Peter Holland said: "To get our free help all people have to do is pick up the phone."

With recent rises in energy costs and the fear of unemployment, many people in Kent are concerned about the stability of their financial future.

Mt Holland said he will work with all members of the local community, regardless of religious belief, negotiating with creditors to work out a realistic budget for clients, which prioritises food and essential bills to ensure they will be debt free within five years.

He will also be able to count on the backing of the charity's many financial experts in Bradford, to offer clients a CAP Account and insolvency services should they need them.

The CAP account is like a simple bank account. Clients need to make one weekly or monthly payment into their account to cover all of the bills and debts. CAP will then distribute the money on their behalf and it can also be used for savings.

Latest national statistics show someone in the UK is declared insolvent or bankrupt every four minutes, while a property is repossessed every 14 minutes – and the expected redundancies from public sector cutbacks are certain to put further pressure on families and individuals.

Mr Barlow said Maidstone was the right place for its latest branch, and added: "A recent client survey showed more than a third of people with spiralling personal debts seriously consider suicide – so it is no exaggeration to say Maidstone will be getting a life-saving service."

Christians Against Poverty is regularly recommended by GMTV's money expert Martin Lewis and was recently described as "fantastic" by Prince Charles on BBC's Songs of Praise when he visited the centre local for Peckham, in London.

Peter Holland can be found at Bearsted Community Church, 538 Loose Road, Maidstone, or on 01622 741169.

We couldn't have done it without you...

We'd like to say a HUGE "thank you" to each and every one of our generous sponsors who made Martha's Trail of 3 Cities such a tremendous success.

Seafrance ◆ Hobbs Parker ◆ Lyn Clarke ◆ Belmont International
The Clarion Portfolio Ltd ◆ Systems Technolgy ◆ VR Sani-Co
Mad Dogs Rugby Club ◆ TaxAssist Accountants ◆ ME Building Solutions
Mark Scott Equestrian Arenas ◆ Camberley Car Centre ◆ Huxley Golf
Sartec Group ◆ Kent Ballooning ◆ CCH ◆ The Helping Hand Company
Christo Cladding Ltd ◆ AD Autos ◆ Sandersons UK
MFW Chartered Accountants ◆ Fancy Pants ◆ Hastings Direct.com
Richard Body & Co Solicitors ◆ Salon 13 ◆ Snodhurst Services
Bishop & Light Solicitors ◆ Goodall Barnett James Solicitors
The Imperial Motor Company ◆ Roy Powell Photography ◆ Arjo
Hardings Caravan Repairs Limited ◆ Cammegh ◆ Highway Motors
Whitbread – Bell & Jorrocks ◆ Kane Dempster ◆ The Lift Interior Company
Four Jays ◆ McCabe Ford & Williams Ltd ◆ White Hart – Hythe

MARTHA TRUST
Transforming the lives of people with profound learning disabilities

Martha Trust, Homemead Lane, Hacklinge, Deal, Kent CT14 0PG
T 01304 610448 **F** 01304 615462 **E** fundraising@marthatrust.org.uk **W** www.marthatrust.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 1067885 Company Number 3467406

Everything for Christmas and more!

Was £399.99 £249

Colorado Dining Table & 6 Chairs

Was £179.99 £129

Dublin Sofabed
'Click-Clack' mechanism

Was £129.99 £99

Mirror Wall Mounted Fire Suite

Was £49.99 £35

12L Elgento Halogen Cooker

Only £9.99

Hello Kitty Mini Castle

Tiger, Lion or Leopard available.

Only £9.99

WowWee Alive Minis
Blinks its eyes and makes cub sounds with animated mouth.

Only £7.29

Bayliss & Harding Bathroom Gift Set

Was £4.99 £3.99

GoodBoy Santa Meerkat Dog Toy

Only £10.99

Snowman with 20 LEDs

Was £19.99 £12.49

120 LED Lightchain
Also available in Red, Blue & White

Was £19.99 £14.99

33 bulb Candlelight

Only £1.99

Disney Wrapping Pack

Dockside Outlet Centre
Maritime Way, Chatham ME4 3ED
therange.co.uk

The Range
Home, Leisure & Garden

All offers are subject to availability and price change. E&OE. Offers end 19/12/10. Chatham store only.

City gallery a pain in the arts, says Sewell

MUSEUM chiefs have hit back at art critic Brian Sewell's comments that one of Kent's best-loved galleries is as "dead as a dodo", ***writes Steve Knight***

The outspoken newspaper columnist slated Canterbury's Beaney Institute during an interview for the BBC One programme Inside Out West, using it as an example of a gallery that people only ever visit once. But the 79-year-old has been criticised for not getting his facts straight, as the Beaney is actually undergoing a £12 million redevelopment and will feature a range of new exhibits, paintings and workshops when it reopens in 2012.

DEAD WRONG: Critic Brian Sewell (left) cited the Beaney Institute as an example of moribund local galleries

Sewell highlighted the council-run gallery as one that should sell off some of its artworks to protect public services threatened by Government spending cuts.

"I'm afraid I've always been sceptical about local galleries having a local focus," he told the programme.

"It means the interest is only momentary. If you go to Canterbury for example, you find the paintings of Thomas Sidney Cooper, who was a local artist who painted sheep and nothing but sheep for 80 years.

"That gallery is as dead as a dodo. One visit by the locals and strangers who have come to see the cathedral and that's it. It has no return value."

The Beaney Institute, which houses both the art gallery and the Kent County Council-run city library, was named after its benefactor Dr James George Beaney and was opened in 1899. However, both buildings have outgrown their space and are being redeveloped.

Martin Crowther – education development manager for Canterbury museums – said he was confident Sewell would change his mind about the gallery once it is reopened.

"He came here years ago and things have changed quite a lot since then," he said.

"It's going to be a very exciting, interactive place to be and we are keen to encourage repeat visits."

Mr Crowther also defended the work of Thomas Sidney Cooper, who he likened to Charles Dickens in terms of his importance to the arts in Kent.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

A THUG who slashed a man's face with a knife five times during a frenzied Christmas Day attack has been jailed indefinitely. Paul Harbour), 25, of Lobelia Close, Gillingham, told his helpless victim with each horrific stroke: "Every time you see this, you'll remember me."

The 37-year-old was left with permanent scarring. Harbour denied wounding with intent, claiming he had acted in self-defence.

But a jury at Maidstone Crown Court took less than 30 minutes to find him guilty of the charge.

The court heard how Harbour and the victim became involved in an argument at a Gillingham house on Christmas Day, last year.

Harbour was asked to leave, but armed himself with a knife and launched his savage attack.

VICIOUS: Harbour

Isle Magazine Autumn/Winter 2010

Incorporating Thanet Visitors Information Guide

Pick up your FREE copy of Isle Magazine OUT NOW

ISLE contains the latest information on graded accommodation in Broadstairs, Margate, Ramsgate and surrounding villages.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE
Also included are details on Events, Attractions,Eating Out, Nightlife,Shopping, Historic Buildings, Museums, Arts and Culture, Beaches and Bay

Available across Thanet from newsagents, retail outlets, visitor information centres & hotels.

Call 01303 817073 for more information

View online at www.kentnews.co.uk

thanet

Samsung LE32C450 32" HD ready LCD TV
£279†
Stock No 824 32018
Free 5-year guarantee

Yamaha PDX50 black speaker dock
£99†
Normal retail price £179.95
Save £80
Stock No 823 70705

Acer Aspire One D255 10.1" white netbook
Intel Atom N450, 1GB memory,
160GB hard drive
£199†
Normal retail price £229.95
Save £30
Stock No 827 60166
Free 2 year guarantee
Extend to 3 years for £80

Panasonic TZ10 compact camera
12 megapixels, 12x optical zoom,
HD movie recording and GPS
£239
Stock No 829 22308
Plus get a free leather case worth £29.95†
Free 1 year guarantee
Extend to 3 years for £47

Great value technology from John Lewis at home.
You might start to feel your home has too few plug sockets.

Here's an easy way to get some home improvement done. Make a visit to your local John Lewis at home store and you'll find a great range of electrical and technology products to choose from. And if that wasn't enough we will also provide you with free delivery. Because we are Never Knowingly Undersold, you can be sure you're getting great value. We regularly check and match the online and high street prices of our competitors, even during sales. And if you find the same item for less, in any high street competitor's shop or on their website, we'll refund the difference.* Offers are exclusive to John Lewis at home shops and available until 24 December 2010 or whilst stocks last. It's the simplest way to give your home a makeover.

John Lewis at home

†These offers are exclusive to the John Lewis at home shops and are available until 24 December 2010 or whilst stocks last.
*Our commitment to service means we do not match competitor prices which are only available online or in catalogues. See our 'Never Knowingly Undersold' leaflet in-store or online for details.

A LORRY-load of Christmas trees was prevented from entering the UK when three Vietnamese men were caught hiding within the consignment.

The vehicle was bound for Staplehurst, near Maidstone, but only got as far as Calais when a sniffer dog discovered the stowaways last week.

UK Border Agency director Carole Upshall said: "This incident shows why we base officers in France – to stop would-be illegal immigrants before they can reach the UK. As well as using sniffer dogs, officers also use heartbeat detectors and carbon dioxide probes to find people hiding."

The men were handed over to the French border police and the vehicle was allowed to continue. However, the driver and haulage company face fines of up to £6,000 if they are unable to prove they took steps to secure the lorry.

ON DUTY: Bert is pictured fourth from right with his brigade during the war

Picture: KENT FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Fire-fighting war hero to celebrate 100th birthday

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

SOLDIERS who fought valiantly to protect our shores during World War Two are paid tribute to every year on Remembrance Day.

But their contribution can sometimes overshadow that of the many civilians who also put their lives at risk throughout the six-year conflict, such as the firefighters who faced an almost constant struggle racing from one blaze to the next.

Kent was a key target for bombings and shell attacks during the war, and it was down to men like Bert Brissenden to protect his fellow men of Kent from the Nazis.

The veteran firefighter is due to celebrate his 100th birthday with a visit to Canterbury fire station this week, when he will recall his time in the brigade during the Blitz and Baedeker raids on the city in 1942.

He said: "When the bombers came it was awful, a terrible night. But there was such a sense of comradeship during the war and we were very healthy men.

"We adopted a local stray dog and called it Strike. As soon as the bells rang, the dog would be the first on the fire appliance.

"One night we were called to a fire at Johnsons Tyres. As usual Strike was the first off the engine but he ran straight into the path of a rolling, burning tyre and was killed. There wasn't a dry eye among the men that night."

Mr Brissenden will be presented with a commemorative tankard, a book documenting 50 years of Kent Fire and Rescue Service and a plaque to mark his birthday.

East division area manager Andy Merriman said: "It will be a real honour to celebrate Bert's milestone with him."

Meanwhile, another former Kent firefighter Geof Cooper has compiled a national database of medals and dedications presented to members of his profession since 1890.

The list took a year to create and includes state awards ranging from the George Cross and British Empire Medal to commendations for brave conduct.

Mr Cooper said: "It's important we remember our heritage and the deeds people have carried out and received recognition for."

See www.kent.fire-uk.org for more details.

Sun. Sea. Sand.
We hope
A slip. A trip. A crash.
We all hope not
If you've had an accident on holiday and want to make a **NO WIN NO FEE** claim call **free** on **0800 804 6012** or visit
www.KentCompensation.com
KentCompensation.com
Getting you the compensation you deserve
KentCompensation.com is part of Whitehead Monckton regulated by the Solicitors Regulated Authority 59423.
Regulated and authorised by the Financial Services Authority

Dr Foster finds best and worst in Kent's hospitals

A DAMNING report on hospital care in the NHS has highlighted higher than expected death rates at a trust serving patients in Kent, ***writes Steve Knight***.

South London Healthcare, which runs Queen Mary's Hospital in Sidcup as well as sites in Bromley, is one of 19 trusts criticised in the latest survey by monitoring body Dr Foster.

But there was much better news for East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, which was named the best in the country, having performed consistently well in key areas. These include low mortality ratios and a high number of patients with hip fractures receiving surgery within two days.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust was also highlighted in the report for having lower than expected death rates.

The Dr Foster survey looks at overall death rates and deaths after surgery, as well as a range of other indicators to build a picture of care.

Katherine Murphy – chief executive of the Patients' Association – criticised the 19 trusts that fared poorly in the report. She said: "Safety is still clearly not the top priority of every NHS organisation when it absolutely should be. We are deeply concerned by the high number of adverse events and the wide variation of mortality ratios this report highlights.

"High mortality ratios must be thoroughly investigated with independent scrutiny. The Stafford public inquiry reminded us all of just how hard it can be to uncover, even if there is very widespread poor care."

A South London Healthcare official said patient safety at the trust had improved over the last year, and that the Dr Foster report considered data from 2009-10.

He added: "Our trust is conducting a thorough reorganisation of services, merging smaller clinical specialities from the three hospitals we inherited into larger specialist units with better clinical supervision. Overall, we have made progress, but there are still areas to address and we are committed to dealing with these."

South London Healthcare made headlines last month when it closed the A&E department at Queen Mary's, with the maternity ward due to follow on December 14. The trust says the closures are necessary over the winter months due to a shortage of midwives and emergency middle and junior grade doctors.

Meanwhile, in addition to being named NHS trust of the year, East Kent Hospitals was also the strongest performer in the UK in provision of care for stroke patients.

The trust – which runs Kent and Canterbury, the QEQM in Margate and Ashford's William Harvey – scanned more patients than average within 24 hours and also scored well on providing clot-busting drugs within the same time frame.

Far-right pub booking rumbled by campaign

A PUB landlord has shut the door on the English Defence League after they hired a function room under a different name.

The Kent branch of the EDL – a far-right group set up last year – had planned to hold a meeting at O'Connells in Chatham on Wednesday.

Labour councillor Vince Maple, who backs the Love Music Hate Racism campaign, said the pub had now cancelled the booking.

"I have spoken to the pub and police and they confirmed the room was booked in a different name and the pub had no idea the EDL was planning to use the venue. They have now confirmed there will be no meeting of any description."

Suspect's trail had gone cold

A SUSPECTED would-be car thief has snow-one to blame but himself for being arrested after police followed his footprints.

The 17-year-old was arrested after a car alarm was set off in Surrey Road, Maidstone, at midnight on Monday.

Officers followed footprints in the snow to a nearby road, where they arrested three people. Two were released without charge.

The third was charged with vehicle interference and has been bailed to appear at Maidstone Youth Court on Monday, December 20.

PC Mo Nolan said: "The weather often presents the police with unforeseen opportunities."

Dyson DC31 Handheld Vacuum
£139
Stock No 855 64706
Plus get a free handheld tool kit worth £49 with any Dyson†
Free 2 year guarantee
Extend to 3 years for £39

Indesit IWC8148 Washing Machine
8kg load, 1400 spin
Special Buy
£269†
Stock No 889 32013
Free 2 year guarantee
Extend to 5 years for £129

Siemens KG34NX14GB Fridge Freezer
A+ energy, frost free, LED temp display
£449
Get £50 off when you trade-in your old fridge freezer†
Stock No 865 61605
Free 2 year guarantee
Extend to 5 years for £99

Nespresso Black Citiz Coffee Machine with Aerocino
£199
Stock No 855 08713
Plus free JL gift vouchers worth £50 with any Nespresso machine†
Free 3 year guarantee
Extend to 5 years for £28

Great value electricals from John Lewis at home.
You might start to feel your home has too few plug sockets.

Here's an easy way to get some home improvement done. Make a visit to your local John Lewis at home store and you'll find a great range of electrical and technology products to choose from. And if that wasn't enough we will also provide you with free delivery. Because we are Never Knowingly Undersold, you can be sure you're getting great value. We regularly check and match the online and high street prices of our competitors, even during sales. And if you find the same item for less, in any high street competitor's shop or on their website, we'll refund the difference.* Offers are exclusive to John Lewis at home shops and available until 24 December 2010 or whilst stocks last. It's the simplest way to give your home a makeover.

John Lewis at home

†These offers are exclusive to the John Lewis at home shops and are available until 24 December 2010 or whilst stocks last.
*Our commitment to service means we do not match competitor prices which are only available online or in catalogues. See our 'Never Knowingly Undersold' leaflet in-store or online for details.

THE CLASSIC PANTOMIME ADVENTURE!

John Thomson
(Cold Feet, Coronation St)

Sid Sloane
(Sid from CBeebies)

Dave Lee
(Local Legend)

TICKETS From Only £10

Robin Hood

Phil Holden - Ben Langley - Alan Mehdizadeh - Katie Birtill

3rd December 2010 - 9th January 2011

the marlowe theatre arena CANTERBURY

Box Office 01227 787 787
(booking fee applies)

www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk

The new marlowe Theatre Canterbury

Marlowe in motion

heart 103.1 102.8

KENT ON SUNDAY

yourcanterbury

Lights, camera and nostalgia

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

TWO fascinating films showing life in Canterbury and Thanet in years gone by have been unearthed and are ready for public screenings.

The movie featuring Canterbury has proved so popular that an extra showing has been arranged after the first quickly sold out. On the Streets of Canterbury will be shown in the Cathedral Archives on Friday, December 10, from 3.30pm.

The collection of amateur cine film will be presented by local historian Tony Blake. It is 45 minutes long and has never-before-seen footage, including Canterbury in the 1930s.

LOST TIME: Canterbury in the 1930s

In Thanet film-makers have unearthed previously unscreened film which will be shown at Broadstairs' Palace Cinema on Sunday, December 5, from 5pm.

The first showing, last weekend, proved so popular people had to be turned away. Thanet On Film II – Past, Present and Future producer Christine Tongue said it was a real find and includes footage of Margate pier in the early 1970s.

She said: "A long-time resident heard I was looking for film of Thanet and came forward with this footage, shot 40 years ago. There are wonderful shots of Margate pier and the old lifeboat station."

BEACHED: Ramsgate in the 1950s

The footage shows Thanet in its heyday as a flourishing resort.

Ms Tongue said: "I'm sure people have lots of fascinating films in their attics or cupboards. It would be great to get a chance to screen this material for everyone to enjoy."

Thanet On Film II also includes the fight to save Broadstairs High Street and the controversy over Manston airport, plus the regeneration of Margate.

For the Canterbury film, there is an entrance fee of £2 and those wanting tickets should book in advance through the Cathedral Archives on 01227 865330.

And for bookings to the screening in Broadstairs, phone 01843 865726.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

AGE Concern has won support for its fight against funding cuts from Canterbury MP Julian Brazier.

Age Concern in the city receives 42 per cent of its funding from Kent County Council, almost half of which is now under threat.

Mr Brazier said: "Age Concern's work saves a great deal of money by keeping people out of care homes. It is extremely cost-effective. It would seem short-sighted to starve it of funding when our elderly population is increasing."

THE Clean Kent campaign reached a milestone this year with more than 1,000 volunteers taking part in community clean-ups since the spring.

Dover beach, housing estates in Canterbury, playing fields in Maidstone, a lake in Snodland and marshes in Gravesend have all received a tidy up, supported by Kent County Council and district councils.

Volunteers from youth groups, schools, PCSOs and individuals have all taken part in clean-up activities. To find out more, go to www.cleankent.co.uk or call 0845 345 0210.

Worry free means everything is included

- Free comprehensive insurance for two drivers
- Free Parking sensors
- Free Road tax
- Free Servicing and maintenance
- Free Replacement tyres and windscreen
- Free Breakdown Cover
- No Credit Check necessary

WORRY FREE MOTORING ASSURED

Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people
www.motability.co.uk

Not sure if you qualify for a Motability car? Call 0800 953 4002

Fiesta Zetec 5dr — Petrol or Diesel, Automatic or Manual — NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT
Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr — Petrol, Bluetooth Free — NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT
Galaxy 2.0 Zetec Diesel — Powershift Automatic — £1650 ADVANCE PAYMENT
Focus Sport 5dr 1.6 — Petrol, SD Satellite Navigation, Voice Control Bluetooth, USB Free — £100 ADVANCE PAYMENT

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

Honda Jazz 1.2 ES — NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT
Honda CRV 2.0 SE Manual — £4399 ADVANCE PAYMENT
Mazda 3 1.6 TS 5dr — NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT
Mazda 6 1.8i TS — £695 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Use your higher rate mobility component living allowance or the war pensioners mobility supplement

HOME VISITS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Invicta Motors
For a better motoring experience

Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people

GO ONLINE AND...
- Get your vehicle valued.
- Book your Service.
- View live videos of our stock
- View over 3000 vehicles in group stock

Ford Ashford, Orbital Park, Ashford TN24 0HT, Tel: 0844 856 0392
Ford Canterbury, 59 Sturry Road, Canterbury CT1 1DR, Tel: 0844 856 4129
Ford Thanet, Margate Road, Thanet Westwood, CT12 6SJ, Tel: 0844 856 4132
Mazda Tunbridge Wells, Dowding Way, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3DS, Tel: 0844 844 7008
Mazda Maidstone, Sutton Road, Parkwood, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9NW, Tel. 0844 844 7004
Honda Maidstone, Sutton Road, Parkwood, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9NW, Tel: 0844 844 7003
Honda Tunbridge Wells, Dowding Way, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3DS, Tel: 0844 844 7007

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK MON-FRI 8.30am-7.00pm SAT 8.30am-5.30pm SUN 10.00am-4.00pm

Offer valid on cars from Invicta Motors .ÝFord Cars only.

TV boffin invents OAP care plan

GOOD HANDS: Prof Wolff launches the Care4Care strategy. INSET: Paul Allen

SCIENTIST Professor Heinz Wolff has unveiled a radical new elderly care system that would remain untouched by Government cuts, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

The respected academic, best known for his appearances in television shows The Great Egg Race and Young Scientist of the Year, launched his Care4Care strategy at an event hosted by the Abbeyfield Society in Bromley.

The scheme looks at bringing care more into the community by using a system where people can build up 'soft currency' in return for helping elderly neighbours.

If that person then needs help in later years, they can use credits built up to 'pay' for someone in the community to provide low-level support – who can then in turn start earning their own credits.

Prof Wolff said the system would allow more people to stay in their homes as they grow older.

The 82-year-old, known as the inventor of bioengineering and an honorary member of the European Space Agency, stressed that if the scheme was to go ahead it would not be run by Government but an independent organisation.

"Care4Care would be for people who live in their own homes but need increasing amounts of care," he told KoS. "It would become a responsibility for communities and generation after generation would benefit.

"This is not part of Government policy, but very much follows the idea of the Big Society."

Prof Wolff said by 2011 there will be 1.4 million people aged 85 or over and by 2031 this will have risen to 2.5 million.

"If the UK is going to be able to cope with the economic downturn, the crisis in pension provision and intensified competition, we will need a cultural shift in the manner in which the community engages with care," he said.

Prof Wolff said he believed the scheme could become the norm if accepted by society. He said he was in talks with Government and specialist committees to draw up a set of rules.

Paul Allen, chief executive of the Abbeyfield Society, which provides housing with care for older people, said: "He is raising the debate about the practicalities of care that we will undoubtedly face when the state can no longer provide for a population in which the number of older people with care needs is growing."

News and sport updated daily
www.kentnews.co.uk

Icy blast brings disabled winter fuel support call

A CHARITY is pressing the Government to extend winter fuel support to disabled families and warning that hundreds are already struggling to pay their heating bills.

A report by the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign revealed hundreds of households affected by a severe disability in Kent will face fuel poverty, and be unable to keep up with payments for heating, gas and water.

The charity is urging ministers to consider extending winter fuel payments, where over-60s receive £250 and over-80s up to £400 towards their bills. In Kent, 200,000 households received a payment last year and this is set to rise to 233,400 this year, with 35,910 in Medway.

Robert Meadowcroft, chief executive of the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign, said it was unacceptable that help is not given to people with severe muscle disease and other disabilities during the coldest months.

"One family described their choice as between heating and eating," he said. "We are living in a period of economic challenge, not Dickensian Britain. The Government must act now to offer a financial lifeline to families severely affected by disability and ill health and extend winter fuel support."

Phillip Ling, from Canterbury, has muscular dystrophy and gave evidence for the charity's report. The 62-year-old was forced to give up work at the age of 45, resulting in a reduced pension and dependence on benefits.

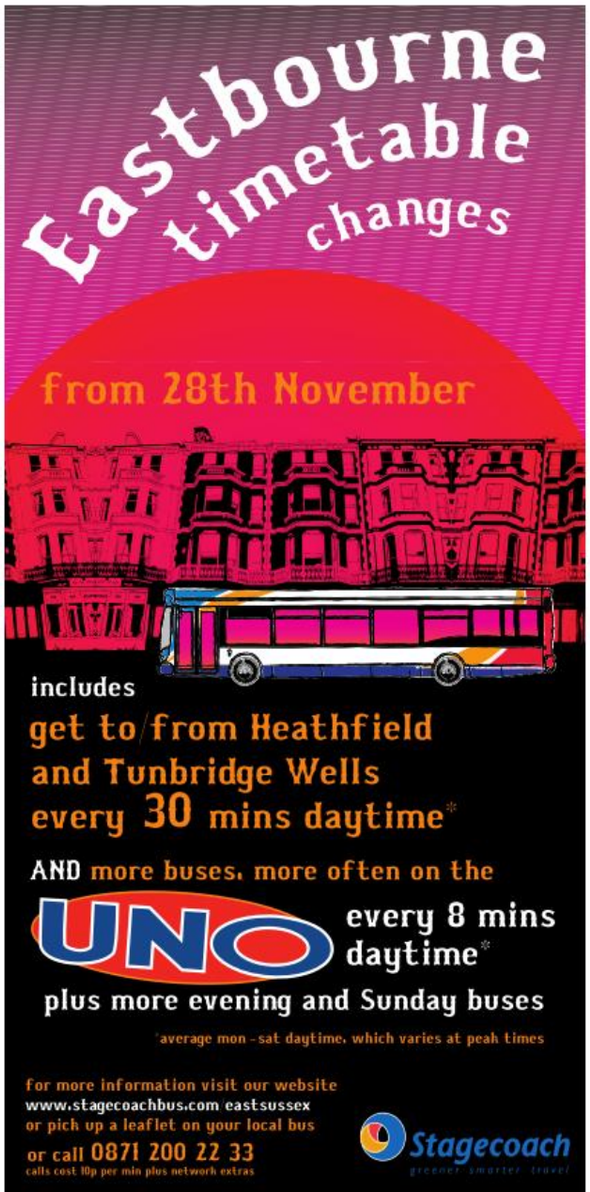
Although now old enough to claim assistance with winter bills, he said for years he and his wife had struggled to keep their house warm.

"I find it strange that the Government gives the fuel allowance to some over-60s who may still be working and not need it, but doesn't offer it to people with health conditions who do," he said.

Winter fuel allowance is provided from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), but Kent County Council has support networks for residents through social services.

Help with heating costs and bills relating to electric hoists and wheelchairs is taken into account when someone is receiving support from the authority. But KCC said winter fuel payments were provided centrally.

A DWP official said: "Winter fuel allowance is for older people to ensure they can keep warm. For those with disabilities there is extensive support, including disability living allowance and employment support allowance."



To advertise in this section 01303 817150

Attachments FOSTERING

You'll get:

- On going training and NVQ
- 14 nights respite per year
- Excellent rates of pay!

Call us now:
01634 244555
attachments@btconnect.com

"empty-nesters" now is the time to foster.

WIN! Family tickets to see Aladdin at The Churchill Theatre, Bromley

ROBINSONS – the nation's favourite squash – and First Family Entertainment have teamed up for the second year running to search for kids in and around Bromley to star in Aladdin, with Melinda Messenger and Don Gilet.

The successful children are already in rehearsals getting ready for their starring roles. Performances start on December 3 and run until January 9 at the Churchill Theatre.

For those who missed the chance to be part of the Aladdin cast, Robinsons has teamed up with Barnardo's to encourage families to create their own panto karaoke online to raise money for the children's charity.

Log onto www.pantokaraoke.com to create your own panto and check out the site, which provides a one-stop shop for families wanting to find out everything they need to know about putting on a pantomime.

Robinsons and KOS Media are offering six lucky winners the chance to win a family ticket to see Melinda Messenger and Don Gilet and the Search for a Star Winners appear in Aladdin at the Churchill Theatre in Bromley.

For the chance to win simply answer this question:

Who grants Aladdin three wishes?

- ***Fairy***
- ***Genie***
- ***Ogre***

A family ticket consists of four tickets.

Tickets are for the following dates:

- Tuesday, December 14, evening performance – 2 x family tickets available
- Wednesday, December 15, Evening Performance – 2 x family tickets available.
- Sunday, December 19, early evening performance – 2 x family tickets available.

Closing date is December 9, 2010.

Text PANTO1 (space) answer, name & address and send to 64343. Texts cost £1 plus standard network rates.

Entries received after the closing date will not be counted but you may still be charged.

Your number may be used by KOS Media. If you do not wish to receive information on any other products or services, please text EXIT at the end of your message. Service Provider: JMedia UK Ltd, SE1 0QX. 0844 800 1188.

No purchase necessary.

For our full terms and conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy call 01303 817073.

Roundhouse trip back to Iron Age

AN IRON Age roundhouse will be built in Kent using reeds.

They were harvested from the RSPB's Strumpshaw Fen nature reserve in the Norfolk Broads to use for thatching the roof of a reconstructed roundhouse in Frith Wood near Ashford.

The roundhouse is being built as an Educational Centre for Touchwood Trees Ltd, a group specialising in environmental and arts education.

The project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund, is encouraging people from the local community and youth groups to get involved and learn new skills.

The better alternative to residential care...

kenthomecare.com™

Live in Care & Support Solutions

Contact kenthomecare today to find out how we enable many to stay at home, to remain independent and to continue to enjoy their life.

e-mail info@kenthomecare.com

0845 257 7413

Your Care, Your Choice

www.kenthomecare.com

GERMAN KITCHENS

COMPLETE RIGID HACKER KITCHEN

INCLUDING BUILT IN DOUBLE OVEN, GAS HOB, COOKER HOOD, SINK & TAPS

ONLY £4399.00

SO WHY BUY FLAT KITCHENS

STOCKIST FOR NEFF, SIEMENS, BOSCH, C.D.A FRANKE AND BLANCO ALL AT INTERNET PRICES

BEAT THE VAT ORDER BEFORE JANUARY 2011

FREE DESIGN SERVICE

P SHOWER BATHROOM SUITE

INCLUDING P SHOWER BATH, FRONT PANEL, CLOSE COUPLED W-C SOFT CLOSE SEAT. BASIN, PEDESTAL, BATH FILLER, BASIN MIXER AND WASTES ALL FOR

ONLY £649.00

Swans Kitchens & Bathrooms

TRADING IN THE AREA FOR 30 YEARS

2 - 3 Echo Square Gravesend Kent DA12 1NP Tel: 01474 569070

Ed Miliband's fight to win

EXCLUSIVE

Last Saturday Labour leader Ed Miliband ventured into the lions' den when party was wiped off Kent's political map – it has no MPs and only two

TALKING POINT: Labour leader Ed Miliband

LABOUR Party leader Ed Miliband has admitted there are "no easy answers" to regaining the faith lost by voters in Kent, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Speaking exclusively to KoS, the new leader of the Opposition acknowledged his party's dismal record in the Garden of England and said he would talk to local people in an attempt to regain their trust.

Labour lost all seven of its MPs in Kent at May's general election and is represented by just two members on Kent County Council.

Furthermore, not one of the 13 district councils in the county – including Medway's unitary authority – is under Labour control.

Recapture

"I think that here, as in other places across the country, people have lost the sense that we would help make their lives better," said Mr Miliband.

"Tackling immigration is an example of a key issue among Kent voters, but there are others underlining that which they may see as more important, such as are their children going to get a job or a house, and how are we going to help them get on in life?

"They gave us the benefit of the doubt for a while when we were in government, but in the end they lost faith.

"There are no shortcuts or easy answers as to how we regain that faith; we've got to go out and talk to people. That's the process we've embarked on because I think many people in Kent felt we had lost our way.

"We intend to recapture their support."

Mr Miliband was in Kent to deliver a speech at the Labour Party's National Policy Forum, which was held at Gillingham's Priestfield Stadium last Saturday. He spoke of the need to take the Big Society back from the Conservatives to become the "people's party" again, and reiterated his desire to target the "squeezed middle".

'We got stale in our mindset,

ARCHANT KOS Media readers grilled Labour leader Ed Miliband during the hour-long question-and-answer session, ***writes Simon Robinson***.

Students, teachers, pensioners, veterans and Kent bloggers were among the audience who put their concerns to Mr Miliband at the intimate session.

The Labour supremo fielded questions from topics across the political spectrum, ranging from the recent student protests to the country's membership of the European Union.

A Canterbury reader asked Mr Miliband if he could live on the minimum wage, to which he admitted: "I'd find it very difficult.

"I have campaigned for a living wage of £7 an hour. Finding ways to increase the living wage is one of our biggest issues as we currently have people working hard who can't lift themselves out of poverty."

MidKent College's Medway campus principal Sue McLeod asked Mr Miliband how he felt about the Coalition's move to scrap the Education Maintenance Allowance.

He said: "I was an advisor when EMA was introduced and I think it's so important. Partly because it gives students an incentive to stay on [in education], but also because it's about giving young people the chance to do things others take for granted. I'm a great supporter of EMA. The way the Government has got rid of it is very damaging."

Photographer Bryan Gulliver brought the focus of the Q&A session to Kent when he asked if Labour would do away with the Dartford Crossing toll.

Mr Miliband responded: "I register the depth of your concern. I can't give you a promise on the tolls as I don't know the background on this. I can promise to look into it.

"At this stage, six months after the general election I'm not going to make false promises. It's something we'll look at."

When asked about his party's ability to take

back lost faith in Labour

he joined a question-and-answer session with KoS readers at MidKent College in Gillingham. At May's election his councillors on KCC. He admits it's going to be a "long hard journey" to try and regain the trust of the county's voters

we've got to reconnect'

Search for 'Miliband' clip @ yourkenttv.co.uk

power at the next general election – if it is called ahead of time – Mr Miliband said: "I don't want it to be a five-year coalition. We are ready at any time.

"Having said that, there are no quick fixes and there are important lessons for my party to learn. We must think about how we get back in touch with the people. If we put the result down to an accident we will be consigning ourselves to being out of power for longer. It's a hard process of thinking how to win people back."

Mr Miliband said his party was undergoing reforms in a bid to gain the support of disillusioned Labour voters.

"I think New Labour was good in some respects," he said.

"But I'm afraid that what happened is that we lost touch with voters. The minimum wage was great when it was introduced in 1997, but in the years that followed I think people were saying 'you have stopped delivering'.

"We got stale in our mindset. We've got to try to reconnect with people."

Pictures: ROBERT BERRY

QUESTION TIME: KoS readers grilled Mr Miliband for an hour over a wide-ranging number of political topics

However, Mr Miliband told KoS that did not mean he would be ignoring the needs of low-paid people like many who live in Gillingham – one of the county's most deprived towns.

"There are many low-paid workers who at the last general election wondered what was in it for them and did not vote," he said.

"We want to make a difference to their lives as well as the lives of middle-class families.

"The Conservatives tend to think about the very poor in society and then everyone else, whereas we recognise many people on a middle income are still struggling to get by. It's those people we want to speak up for."

Following his appearance at the forum, Mr Miliband travelled the short distance to MidKent College's Medway campus for an intimate question-and-answer session with KoS readers.

The Labour leader fielded questions on topics from across the political spectrum, ranging from the voting reform referendum to the problem of the national debt.

When asked afterwards why Kent voters should care about his responses given Labour's current standing as the outsider of UK politics, Mr Miliband said it was more about gauging opinions than revealing new policies at this stage.

He also ruled out running a campaign based on publicity stunts, referring to David Cameron's much-publicised trip to the North Pole – which he claimed was to study the effects of climate change – before he became Prime Minister.

Foothold

Mr Miliband said: "We know it could be five years before the next general election so now is our opportunity to start to rebuild.

"It's going to be a long, hard journey, but it's not about going to the North Pole to visit huskies. It's about a long engagement with people from Kent and elsewhere about what they want from a renewed Labour Party.

"We've got to have done the hard work before the next election before we start talking about our hopes for the future."

Mr Miliband added that the main thing he had taken from the Q&A session was the sense that people want a government that has a real plan for the country.

"We've got to have an economic policy that goes beyond reducing the deficit," he said.

"How are we going to create new jobs and get people on better wages? These are the types of things we need to address.

"I want us to win as many seats in Kent as possible at the next election and I'm confident we will start to regain a foothold with the local council elections next May.

"The Conservatives have no plans to replace the jobs that are currently being lost, and that's very bad for social justice. These are hard decisions that are really going to hit people hard."

Views needed over selective school policy

THE Labour Party will be "taking advice" over its policy on grammar school education, said Mr Miliband.

Kent is one of the only counties in the UK that still has grammar schools, but Labour has a history of being opposed to selective schooling.

When asked if his party would consider changing tact to win over more Kent voters, Mr Miliband replied: "I know grammar schools are an issue in Kent and I will want to take advice from people on that area.

"But that's why we're having a policy review. Part of it is about how we make sure we create good schools for as many people as possible."

Neither Labour nor the Tories currently back building new grammars.

'We'll speak up' for hard hit rail users

MR MILIBAND has promised to speak up for rail commuters who will hit by massive fare increases next year.

From January, disgruntled Southeastern passengers will have to fork out up to £500 extra for a season ticket to London and almost £600 on the high-speed service.

"Investment in trains has to be paid for somehow, but if you're putting up fares significantly then you have to recognise the squeeze on living standards," said Mr Miliband.

"When you add all these things up – including tuition fee increases and so on – it has a massive financial impact on people. We will speak up for them."

Top Tory MP takes swipe at new leader

SEVENOAKS' Conservative MP Michael Fallon says the Labour Party's re-launch has "fallen flat".

The Tories' vice-chairman was responding to Ed Miliband's speech to the National Policy Forum, when he called for a reorganisation of the party.

Mr Fallon said: "Ed Miliband says Labour has lost its way, but he wrote the party manifesto that lost the general election.

"Until he stops dithering, comes up with a credible plan on the economy and sorts out the divisions in his own party over graduate tax, 50p tax, and the role of the trade unions, he won't get people to take an interest in Labour."

END OF SEASON SALE
Caravans from only £13,995

Coghurst Hall is a popular country estate on the outskirts of Hastings. We have a selection of pre-owned caravan park homes available right now from just £13,995. Ideal for the first time buyer, these models are great value and give you the opportunity to join our other owners at this very sought after location. A friendly country park with great facilities, leisure club, bar, restaurant and fantastic fishing lake.

We also have a selection of brand new luxury caravans and woodland lodges all at end of season SALE PRICES!

Please call 01424 756 814 for model availability or check out all of our homes for sale at: www.ParkHolidaysUK.com/coghurst

Coghurst Hall Country Estate, Ivyhouse Lane, near Hastings, TN35 4NP

COGHURST HALL HOLIDAY PARK

Pier into our lost past

FANCY a day out at the seaside? How about Ramsgate, Whitstable or Broadstairs?

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Then again, Hampton-on-Sea looks nice – or it did before it became Hampton-under-Sea.

But the long-since vanished north Kent village is set to be resurrected in a new digital Collins Atlas of Great Britain as it unearths the nation's lost settlements.

Coastal erosion finally claimed Hampton as homes fell into the Thames Estuary in the early 20th century, and few now recall the quaint village on the outskirts of Herne Bay.

The authorities demolished other village properties as the sea continued its inland advance, despite efforts at coastal defence.

Part of the original Hampton pier still remains today, but all that remains of the village is the Hampton Inn. It was once known as Hampton Pier Inn and dates back to the building of the pier by the Herne Bay, Hampton and Reculver Oyster Fishery Company in the 1860s.

Incredibly, the inn survived when all about it was washed away, leaving uninterrupted views from the pub and its garden, which provides a vantage point for spectacular sunsets. Landlord Simon Brown runs the pub with his wife, Amanda. He said: "It's easy to understand why they built a village here in the first place. The scenery is stunning and the sunsets are like a tropical paradise. It's a shame about the village. Parts of it were just washed away."

Picture: LINDA SPASHETT

WASHED AWAY: Hampton pier is a reminder of submerged village

Collins, famous for its reference books, says it was in 1916 that the coastal erosion took its toll.

A spokesman said: "Hampton-on-Sea was a drowned and abandoned village in what is now the Hampton area of Herne Bay.

"It grew from a fishing hamlet in 1864 at the hands of an oyster fishery company; was developed from 1879 by land agents; abandoned in 1916; and finally drowned due to coastal erosion by 1921."

The village was also home to Edmund Reid, who was the Metropolitan Police head of CID. For a time he was in charge of the Jack the Ripper investigation in Whitechapel, London. After retirement he spent his days trying to save the village and was the last person to move out in 1916.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

AN ELDERLY woman has been left traumatised after she was repeatedly targeted by a crook and her home raided.

On Monday, at about 6pm, a man called at the 95-year-old's home in Welbeck Avenue, Tunbridge Wells, claiming a football had gone into her garden. When she returned to the front door the man was gone, along with her savings and some personal belongings. Detectives believe the same man had earlier spoken to the woman in the street, and had called at her house on several occasions, asking for money.

The following night, someone forced their way into her house and searched the rooms. A neighbour disturbed a man in the garden, but he escaped over a fence. Police say the victim has been "severely shaken" by the events.

LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817001, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Privatisation's wrong track

Well said, Roger Gale MP, regarding the announcement of outrageous train fair hikes in January by Southeastern's Charles Horton.

This follows fellow Tory MP Sir John Stanley's – and virtually everyone else who was there – lambasting of Mr Horton at the recent Kent County Council rail summit in Maidstone over the very same issue, along with changes to train timetables in December, 2009, and station staffing, etc.

I heard far more sense from other participants at the summit regarding the local service – as well as Southern, which covers most of Sussex and Hampshire plus parts of Kent – than anything Mr Horton had to say, then or now.

All this at the same time as public transport is being seen as one of the best ways to tackle the threat from climate change.

It simply isn't good enough for Mr Horton to keep blaming the Government for cuts in subsidies when we already have the most expensive rail service in Europe.

People need to use it to get to and from work in London and across the South East. The fare rises, and those proposed for subsequent years, will force people into cars – damaging the environment further – and out of jobs. They also claim they cannot consider changing the timetables until December, 2012. But passengers and staff I've spoken to say that's nonsense. The original timetables from before December, 2009, need to be reinstated and the high-speed trains slotted around those, not the other way round.

Further, the high-speed trains sitting idle in sidings should be used on 'classic' services during peak times. Also, as there are two four-car sets of old slam-door trains rotting at the Chart Leacon, Ashford, depot. Why not refurbish them, with a diesel unit installed, and run them on the Ashford-Brighton line, to improve that sardine-can like two-car run. They, and the above changes, would be in service far sooner than the new coaches promised by the Government, which will take until 2019 to arrive – though it seems everywhere except the South East. Finally, it has long been clear that privatisation of the rail industry has been an abject failure. Even Tories admit it was botched. The time has come to return the whole sector to nationalisation, albeit based on a social enterprise model. This, along with maintaining investments in it, as is proposed in the Green Party's Green New Deal for instance, rather than ongoing fare hikes, overcrowding, and poor service.

Ray Duff, Folkestone

OPINION: NO PLACE FOR AMATEURS

Former rugby international and ex-MP **DEREK WYATT** believes our Olympics legacy has been put at risk by the Government's school sports cuts 'own goal'

THE Coalition Government's drastic cuts to the school sports fund are cause for great concern. Levels of fitness in children and young people are at an all-time low, it's an embarrassment that the host nation of the next Olympics is diverting its attention away from the matter.

Education Secretary Michael Gove stated: "The best way to create a lasting Olympic legacy in schools is to give them the freedom and incentives to organise it themselves, for themselves, rather than imposing a centralised Government blueprint."

We cannot, however, pass on the burden to our already stretched teachers. We need to deploy trained and skilled professionals to work with schools, and together we can provide an affordable solution to keep the nation healthy, provide benefits to the community and tackle youth obesity. It is much easier to target and enthuse children when at school than to try to drag them away from the games console when they get home. Besides, as someone who has had the honour of playing rugby for my country, I can vouch that school is where our thirst for sporting success is nurtured.

There is no part of England which will not suffer, and Kent is no exception. School sport partnerships (SSP), like the Thanet SSP, which was established in 2005, have been instrumental in creating an increase in pupils doing the national minimum of two hours' PE per week from 58 per cent to 92 per cent.

Participation in intra-school competition has increased from 46 to 97 per cent; and inter-school competition from 25 to 64 per cent. These are impressive increases and it boggles the mind to think that institutions such as these are having their funds slashed. Without support these figures will not be sustained and we will have let young people down. While we are lambasting Michael Gove's and David Cameron's lack of foresight as to what is required to help build our post-Olympics legacy, there are heroes emerging who are taking it upon themselves to ensure this legacy is delivered, with or without Government support.

The Community Sports Foundation is a new national charity for children and young adults. Founded by Joseph Noble, it is designed to bring communities closer together and reduce levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and poor health. The charity has already established a network of partners and the foundation's coaching network delivers sports coaching to more than 50,000 children every week and has consulted with more than 150 schools. These charities need sponsorship and are increasingly looking to the private sector as Government support diminishes. Isn't it time we shifted the focus from what the Government is not doing to what outstanding individuals are doing? Particularly as they are so reliant on mass support, from a wide spectrum of volunteer coaches through to big business sponsorship. We do not need to give up the ghost of our Olympic legacy. We just need to change where we are looking to provide it.

The school sport cuts permeate through so many branches of society that it has made the uproar particularly vociferous. They concern our children, primarily, which is always a strong catalyst for revolt. But it also concerns their health, education and safety. Sport is a way of bringing individuals together and these cuts jeopardise the bonds sport builds.

My only hope is that what funding remains will be invested in proven methods that work instead of expensive and radical ideas. This is not an area to be handled by have-a-go members of a Big Society, but a subject for trained experts.

Charities such as the foundation help bridge the gap, but rely so heavily on public donations and corporate sponsorship that the full ramifications of the spending review will not be known until we actually see how the economy absorbs the shock.

Will these charities and public organisations survive and save our future sports stars now that the Government has let them down?

• Derek Wyatt is a trustee of the Community Sports Foundation and was Labour MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey until May, 2010.

KOS media COMMENT

Long winter ahead after chaotic week

FOR most people, the thought of snow conjures up picture postcard images of a winter wonderland.

But it seems that rose-tinted view may have been replaced by dread after, yet again, Kent fell apart because of an arctic blast. Aside from those lucky enough to be able to claim days off, the white stuff seemed to cause nothing but trouble.

Hundreds stuck in their cars, train passengers stranded and lorries stacked up on the motorway. And all this despite promises that the roads would be cleared and rail users kept updated and on the move. Dangerous road conditions causing gridlock is understandable, but for Southeastern to allow passengers to get stuck on trains for hours, not tell commuters which services are running and to leave people stranded, is inexcusable.

Two weeks ago the company announced it would be raising prices on some season tickets by £500. Perhaps this week's problems will show Southeastern exactly why Kent's commuters are so angry.

People know severe weather is unavoidable and it would take a miracle for nothing to go wrong, but it seems no lessons have been learnt from last winter.

If icy temperatures and snow are to become an annual fixture for Kent, those in control need to hurry up and work out how to keep the county running, otherwise we've got a long winter ahead of us.

We've still got the Olympics to enjoy

AFTER years of hard work on the World Cup 2018 bid, England has been pipped to the post by Russia.

And to rub salt into the wound Qatar was named as host for 2022. It's a bitter blow to England, a country with first-class facilities, passionate fans and exciting leagues.

But there is a silver lining. We still have the Olympics in 2012 and next year the world's eyes will be on Kent when the Open Golf comes to Sandwich.

Gale's change of direction

You could almost be forgiven for thinking the Conservatives were the champions of Kent's rail users after their Fares Fair campaign in the run up to the election and threats to Southeastern by Roger Gale MP (KoS, last week). However, those of us with a slightly longer memory will recall the Tory campaign to curb rail fare rises placed the blame squarely on the government rather than the franchise holder.

Perhaps someone ought to remind Mr Gale who is in Government now. And, of course, we mustn't forget the real reasons our rail fares are the highest in Europe: the Tory privatisation of rail, closures in the 1960s and lack of investment by successive governments.

Public transport should be a service run by government. Investing in clean public transport while taxing more polluting forms is how government should support our rail service. Perhaps someone remind Mr Gale of this?

Stuart Jeffery, Kent Green Party

Too squeamish about politics

There is poor availability of halls in Gravesend for holding large political meetings. This serves the cause of local politics badly. Political activity is not a crime – not in the UK at least.

But many organisations are hand-wringingly squeamish about it. We should encourage adults and young people to participate fully.

This aim would be aided if public and community bodies were to be a bit more open-minded.

I have spent much time, without success so far, trying to hire a hall for UKIP's party leader to make a speech to the public in Gravesham.

I have tried the Civic Centre hall and rooms (the borough council doesn't touch politics); St George's Church hall (ditto); Gravesend Grammar School for Girls (ditto); The Old Town Hall (KCC – ditto); Northfleet School for Girls (undergoing refurbishment); St Botolph's Church hall (already booked); Manor hotel (already booked); Baptist church (not booked, but something else going on at the same time in adjacent hall); St John's (no answer).

If we are going to be squeamish about holding political meetings, we will all be the losers.

Geoffrey Clark, UKIP Gravesham branch secretary

Bailout logic is foreign to me

Transport minister Mike Penning says the Dartford crossing tolls must stay and we must pay more because "we are in really difficult economic times". So difficult we have just handed Ireland a £10 billion bailout.

Plus an extra £450 million this year to add to the £15bn we already pay annually into the EU. A voluntary 37 per cent increase on the current £9bn foreign aid bill.

The only difficult part, is normal working people trying to maintain living standards, while the Government fritters money around the world to everybody else like confetti.

Terry Hudson, Herne Bay

Now deliver on your promise

It was over six months ago that the Coalition Government promised to end the detention of children for immigration purposes. Yet children are still being held in spite of clear evidence that this is harmful.

I would like to join the Children's Society and Bail for Immigration Detainees – the OutCry! Campaign – in calling on the Government to fulfil the promise it made by ending the detention of children without further delay, and developing a more humane system for the treatment of families and children who are subject to immigration control.

There is evidence from countries such as Sweden that far fewer families end up facing forced removal if steps are taken throughout the immigration and asylum process to address the barriers that prevent families best presenting their case.

Child welfare and safeguarding must be placed at the heart of any new practice. We have an opportunity to restore the reputation of this country for keeping our promises and protecting children from harm. The time for prevarication is over, the time for action has come.

Kathy McCarthy, Sevenoaks

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

ANDREWS
McKenzi Debbie Louise born on 16th November 2010, weighing 7lb 13oz. Daughter to Leeann-Marie and Ryan in Maidstone.

BOARD
Andrina and Alex Board celebrate the birth of their son Ryan Ellis, born on 10th November 2010.

BRITTON
Gary and Zoe of Crowborough are delighted to announce the birth of their son Samuel David Britton, born 22nd November 2010 at Pembury Hospital weighing 8lbs.

HOLLINGSBEE
John and Sara of St Nicholas at Wade are delighted to announce the birth of their second daughter, Daisy May, on 9th November 2010. A new sister for Lucy.

HOWARD
Harrison born on 12th November 2010, weighing 8lbs 6oz. Son to Gemma Beautridge and Robert Howard in Ramsgate.

KENYON-JONES
Simon and Susan are pleased to announce the birth of their son Benjamin William on 15th November 2010, a brother for Elizabeth.

MILLER
Michelle and Andy Miller of Margate celebrate the birth of their daughter Isabel Corin Miller on 13th November 2010.

MITCHELL
James and Charlotte of Ashford are delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter Niamh Suzanne on the 14th October 2010. A little sister for Joshua.

MORTON
Emily Lily born on 23rd November 2010, weighing 7lb 11oz. Daughter to Lisa and Alan, sister to Sophia.

PROVINS
Freddie William David born on 18th November 2010, weighing 6lbs 2ozs. Son to Peter and Leoni in Margate.

ROSEMAN
Matthew and Lucy Roseman would like to celebrate the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Eden Lila Roseman, born on 29th October, weighing 8lb at the William Harvey Hospital, Ashford.

SECKER
Nicola and Adrian are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their baby daughter Katie Jayne. First grand daughter for Sue and Bill, and Heather and Michael.

SWAILE
Nicola Haseler of BBC South East Today and her partner Daniel Swaile are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Amelie Grace Swaile, born on 15th November 2010 weighing 6lb 12oz.

TEBBUTT-FORD
Richard and Rebecca Tebbutt-Ford of Broadstairs celebrate the birth of their son John Alexander Tebbutt-Ford on 12th November 2010. A brother for Bethany.

WITHAM
Chiara Rosetta born on 13th November 2010, weighing 9lb 10oz. Daughter to Liam and Claudia Witham in Maidstone.

DEATHS

BROMLEY
John Bromley, former waterman and landlord of the Terrace Tavern, Gravesend, passed away 19/11/10. The funeral is at Medway Crematorium 09/12/10 at 11am. Enquiries to Co-Op, Milton Road, tel: 01474 564082.

CLOKE
Annalie Cloke of Folkestone died peacefully on the 26th November 2010. Funeral service at Hawkinge Crematorium on 10th December 2010 at 3:30pm. Immediate family flowers only, all donations to the Pilgrims Hospice, Ashford.

VELVICK
Nellie Velvick of Charing passed away peacefully at the William Harvey Hospital on 22nd November 2010. She will be sadly missed by all the family. Funeral to be held at Charing Church on 1st December at 11:30.

VIZZARD
Tess Vizzard passed away peacefully on 21st November 2010. The funeral will be held on 10th December at 1.20pm at Thanet Crematorium. You will be greatly missed by your loving daughter Sherilee. From little acorns great oaks grow.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

Productivity of polytunnels

With reference to last week's story about the Hugh Lowe Farms polytunnels application.

Soft fruit production in Kent with polytunnels is one of many recent success stories of our important and valuable rural industry. Kent growers have risen to the challenge to produce a superior product for longer periods of the year, to higher environmental standards, while still meeting the ever-growing quality required by the consumer.

Hugh Lowe Farms have worked with planners to provide a balanced and reasonable application, to mitigate the landscape impact while still providing employment and services to the community. This application is retrospective, brought about by a change in national planning rules, covering the existing use of polytunnels on their farms and does not represent an expansion of soft fruit production.

Marion Regan, a long-term member of the National Farmers' Union, has worked with the NFU to help form an ongoing polytunnel policy that recognises both the importance of the system for the production of safe and wholesome food, while at the same time balancing the views and aspirations of local people. I was pleased to support Marion at their farm Open Day earlier in the year and fully support this application.

Charles Tassell, chairman, Kent NFU

Don't remove mobility lifeline

In the comprehensive spending review, Chancellor George Osborne announced the Government would be removing the mobility component of disability living allowance (DLA) for those in residential care homes.

Disability charities and organisations such as Mencap are campaigning against this decision. We are very concerned that, as an unintended consequence, many people with a learning disability will no longer be able to afford to go out and meet friends and families, participate in external social activities and engage with their communities.

I believe the Government has misunderstood how disabled people use this important benefit. Without this lifeline, many disabled people in residential care will lose much of their independence.

Sue Delling, Deal

Charitable use for any clutter

With Christmas fast approaching and many families making preparations for guests over the festive season, I would like to ask readers to consider donating unwanted items to the Children's Trust's charity shops.

Clearing space and tidying rooms for visitors is a great way to de-clutter and our shops would welcome donations of good quality items, including clothing, fashion accessories, kitchenware, books, games, toys, DVDs/CDs, bric-a-brac, electrical goods and furniture. Even clothes that are too tatty to be sold should be put in a bin bag and labelled 'rag' as these will also help generate income. With regard to donating furniture items, contact Donna Jarvis on 01622 685112 for an initial discussion. Our charity shops in Kent are:

- Canterbury: 5 St Peter's Street; Maidstone: 20 Gabriel's Hill;
- Sevenoaks: 111 High Street;
- Tonbridge: 48 High Street;
- Tunbridge Wells: 4 Camden Road;
- Orpington: 264 High Street;
- Chatham: 319 High Street.

All are open Monday to Saturday, 9am-5pm. We would also love to hear from anyone who would like to become one of our volunteers and join our friendly team. Days and hours of working are flexible, so pop along to your local shop and speak to the manager.

The Children's Trust is a national charity which provides care, education and therapy for children with multiple disabilities and complex health needs, and rehabilitation services to children with an acquired brain injury. Click on www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk for more information.

Roy Greenslade, the Children's Trust

Be vigilant and beat brain bug

As cold winter weather takes hold and cases of meningitis begin to rise, I'd like to point readers in the direction of Meningitis UK's website.

We've launched a new section explaining about all aspects of the disease in the hope people will be better prepared to spot the symptoms and get swift treatment.

Now is the time to be extra vigilant as symptoms for meningitis are easily confused with more minor ailments such as the common cold or flu.

We've redesigned our research pages to be user-friendly and explain about the disease fully while offering help and support.

The education section, with a quiz and symptoms puzzle, aims to help people diagnose the deadly brain bug more quickly and save lives.

New interactive features, including a flash game, explain how the immune system works and shows the success of vaccines and treatment.

A vaccine timeline shows the history of how the disease has been fought over the years, while the research pages explain the substantial work we're doing to develop a vaccine for all forms of meningitis. Meningitis UK's mission is to eradicate meningitis completely. Our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign hopes to raise £7 million to achieve this goal. Visit ww.meningitisuk.org and click on the 'meningitis' tab to find out more.

Catherine Fougère-Masters, Meningitis UK

Learning how to be inclusive

Friday marked the International Day of Persons with Disabilities and we are issuing an urgent call to ensure disabled children in developing countries are not left out of school.

Without an education, children miss out on lifelong benefits – better job opportunities, greater participation in their community, improved health and clearer understanding of their rights. At Leonard Cheshire Disability we believe education for all is a basic human right. Lack of physical access into school buildings, inadequate facilities and discrimination are all factors that stop disabled children in developing countries from getting an education.

Children like Mohammed, from Sierra Leone, seemed to have little hope of an education. The long war left him and thousands of other children disabled and without any access to education. However, things are starting to change. Leonard Cheshire Disability, along with other organisations, is creating inclusive schools, training teachers, and encouraging parents to send their disabled children to school.

Mohammed now attends his local mainstream school, and greater disability awareness among staff and students now means he is benefiting from a full education. But positive stories like this are not common enough. Disability has not been included in the eight Millennium Development Goals agreed by world leaders. This means disabled people are largely ignored, excluded from society and more likely to live in poverty. To find out more about our international work, visit the website www.LCDisability.org/international.

Clare Pelham, chief executive, Leonard Cheshire Disability

Laptop viewers and TV licence

Now that thousands of students from Kent have settled into their studies, TV Licensing is issuing a reminder to ensure they are correctly licensed if they watch TV online.

It's now far more common to own a laptop or PC in university halls than a traditional television set.

In fact, research suggests that of the 84 per cent of students in halls who use their laptop/PC to watch TV online, 59 per cent watch live TV as its broadcast and so require a licence. It is important students are aware whether they need a licence, as it's not worth risking a prosecution and fine of up to £1,000.

The law is simple – if you watch or record programmes online at the same time as they are shown on TV, then you need a TV licence. For more on online licensing requirements and how to buy a TV licence, visit www.tvlicensing.co.uk/studentinfo or call 0300 790 6090.

Jon Shaw, TV Licensing

Give a dog the gift of a future

As a patron for Dogs Trust, I am writing to let animal lovers know how they can help abandoned and unwanted dogs this Christmas.

The Dogs Trust slogan – A Dog is for Life, Not Just for Christmas – means that no matter how tempting it might be to give dogs as presents, please don't. Instead, think about sponsoring a dog from Dogs Trust as an alternative gift. For only £1 a week, your gift can help give a dog a future beyond Christmas.

Every year, Dogs Trust rescues thousands of abandoned and unwanted dogs. If you know someone who is crazy about canines, please consider a donation. Find out more at dogstrust.org.uk/sponsor.

John Barrowman, actor

LAST 2 WEEKS

MUST CLOSE 19TH DECEMBER

ALL STOCK MUST GO

COME IN AND MAKE AN OFFER

BAG YOURSELF A BARGAIN

MANY OTHER ITEMS AVAILABLE

- including mirrors and pictures - all at crazy prices!!

SLEEPEEZE BEDS

GIVEAWAY PRICES - FLOOR STOCK ONLY

Kensington
5' Solid Oak Table
Clearance price £149

£379 THE PAIR — **3+2 STR SOFAS** *unbelievable offer!*

ONLY £229 — **GLASGOW** OAK TABLE, 4 CHAIRS *Great quality at silly price*

FROM £99 — **WING CHAIRS** *Be quick - few only!*

FROM £99 — **RECLINER CHAIRS** *First come -first served!*

EVERYTHING HAS TO GO!!
THESE OFFERS WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN

Coffee Tables	From only £59
Book cases	From only £59
Lamp Tables	From only £49
Corner Units	Now only £449
Nest of tables	From only £59
T.V. units	From only £89

FREE CUSTOMER PARKING

BREWERS ST FURNITURE STORE

3-5 Brewer St, Maidstone ME14 1RU **01622 673 888**

OPEN EVERY DAY UNTIL WE CLOSE 10.00am - 5.00pm

Training, Courses & Careers

To advertise on this page contact –
Telephone: **01303 817040**
Email: **editorial@kosmedia.co.uk**
Online: **www.kentnews.co.uk**

BEST BUILD: MidKent College, Medway

Campus receives top design award

MIDKENT College's new campus has been named Best New Build at a culture and design awards ceremony.

The event, hosted by Medway Council, saw the state-of-the-art site scoop the top prize, beating off contenders including Chatham Maritime's landmark The Quays development.

College principal and chief executive Stephen Grix collected the award alongside representatives from Kier Build – the company behind the campus' design and construction.

Pupils brush up on their Hispanic

SIXTH form pupils from a number of the county's schools have taken part in a Hispanic Day at the University of Kent.

The event, organised by the Hispanic Studies section of the university's School of European Culture and Languages, gave them the chance to explore languages as well as see what undergraduate study involves.

Fourth year Hispanic students spoke about their experiences and the year abroad option, and a guest speaker from Castilla y Leon in Spain gave a presentation.

For information go to www.kent.ac.uk.

Students 'pier' into future

TWO architecture students have presented design ideas for the restoration of one of the county's landmarks, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Ellen Ward and Carla Novak, both undergraduates studying for a diploma in architecture at the University for the Creative Arts (UCA), won the chance to present proposals on the regeneration of Herne Bay Pier.

The restoration has been adopted by the university's School of Architecture in Canterbury as a special live project for students to work on.

Commissioned

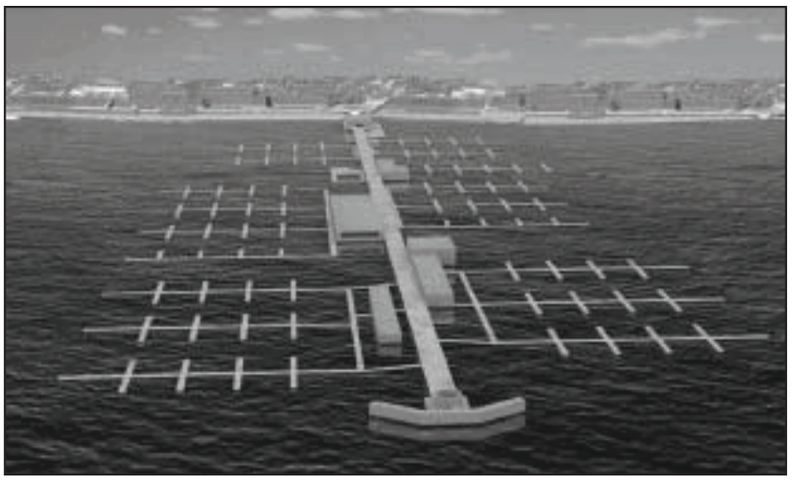
Students with the best design proposals were able to show their ideas to the Herne Bay Pier Trust and members of the public.

Miss Ward's plans centred on a marina, which could be expanded in line with the demand for moorings, and Miss Novak's looked at creating an extension of the current high street, with a high-end hotel and supermarket, with shops, bars and a farmers' market.

Course leader John Bell praised both plans and said they had received good feedback.

"The girls' proposals received an enthusiastic response from the meeting with many saying their ideas were a great deal more useful than the official report that was commissioned by the council," he said.

"Ellen and Carla did UCA proud – their work was excellent and we are looking forward to further collaborations with the Trust, plus an imminent exhibition of their plans."



PROPOSAL: Ellen Ward's design was centred on Herne Bay pier with an expandable marina

Miss Novak said despite being apprehensive about how people might react to their ideas, they sparked a debate and were well-received by the Trust and public.

"I think the audience liked our ideas because they were new and different and included features that would bring revenue and the tourist trade to Herne Bay, which nobody had previously considered," she said.

Fellow student Miss Ward said the project gave them a unique opportunity to represent UCA in the local community.

For information about UCA go to www.ucreative.ac.uk.

WIN: Ashley (right)

Apprentice can handle the pressure

A GAS worker has been named apprentice of the year by major distribution operator Southern Gas Networks.

Ashley Steward, from Maidstone, was selected from the pressure control and pipelines field after positive feedback from trainers, mentors and managers.

The 20-year-old has been working for Southern Gas Networks since 2008, when the company appointed its first large-scale intake of apprentices, and is working towards an NVQ Level Three qualification.

On graduating next August he will become a member of a team which monitors gas pressures and carries out routine pipeline maintenance.

Pull out your Review section opposite to read JobsforKent.co.uk, starting on page 55

Powered by KOS Media

JobsforKent.co.uk

Senior & General Appointments 55-56
Public Sector Vacancies 56-57
Jobs for Kent 57-58
Public Notices 58

TO ADVERTISE: TELEPHONE: **01303 817040** | FAX: **01303 817004** | EMAIL: **appointments@kosmedia.co.uk**

- Accountancy
- Administration, Secretarial, PA
- Agriculture, Forestry, Environment
- Art and Design
- Catering, Hospitality
- Construction, Architecture, Surveyors
- Customer Service, Call Centre
- Domestic
- Education, Teacher, School
- Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities
- Estate Agency, Property
- Graduate, Trainees
- Health and Safety, Security, Defence
- HR, Recruitment
- Industrial, Warehouse, Factory
- IT, Internet, Telecoms
- Insurance, Banking, Finance
- Legal
- Leisure, Tourism, Travel
- Management Consultancy
- Management, Senior Positions
- Marketing, Advertising
- Motor Trade, Driver
- Not for Profit, Charities
- Nursing, Medicine, Care Work
- Other
- Print, Packaging, Distribution
- PR, Media, Journalism
- Public Sector, Social Services
- Retail, Wholesale, Sales
- Scientific and Pharmaceutical, Research
- Transport, Logistics, Aviation

7.5T Multi-Drop Drivers
urgently required

All must have digital taco and multi-drop experience.
Based in Aylesford, Maidstone.

Please call Sarah on 01622 695555

Class 1 Drivers

urgently required
Temp to Perm
From £10 per hr
Ashford
Nights

Please call Sarah on 01622 695555

Port Regis Residential Elderly Care Broadstairs
Require
Night Staff – F/T and P/T
Cook – F/T and P/T
Tel: 01843 602266

West Kent YMCA
Furniture Warehouses Project Assistant
£6.50p/hr+Health+Pension
4 days inc some Saturdays
Close 6/12/10 Interview 9/12/10
jobs@WestKentYMCA.org.uk
Tel:01892542209 Txt:07941388852

Casual Bar Waiting staff

required for country pub near Sittingbourne for throughout December. Own Transport necessary.
Please phone 01795 842546

OPERATIONS MANAGER MOBILE & STATIC CLEANING SUPERVISORS & CLEANERS

Ashford, Canterbury, Tenterden, Maidstone & Dartford Areas

Full and Part Time Positions
Variety of Shift Times Available

Operations Managers / Supervisors salary subject to experience.

Static Supervisors - £7.50 PH min
Cleaning Operatives - £6.00 PH min

Cleaning Operatives Call 01622 717414
Managers/Supervisors email CV to mail@ridgecrestcleaning.com

PARENT CHAMPIONS

Parents Consortium, SPACE, Includes Us 2 and For Us 2 are four charities and community groups working across Kent to improve the lives of disabled children and their families.

Each of these charities is now looking to recruit a Parents Champion for 15 hours/week over 8 months for £17,750 p.a. pro rata. The post holders will work with parents and other agencies to improve child care for disabled children. Initially home based with job share/flexible hour options. Timely, independent travel is required to achieve the role.

Contact details for an application pack or to find out more about the post are given below. The closing date for all posts is mid day 10 December.

Parents Consortium: Dartford/Gravesham coverage.
Contact Alan Milner (01322 668501) or e-mail milnera@parentsconsortium.co.uk
Sunrise Parents Advisory Committee: Tonbridge/Tunbridge Wells/Sevenoaks coverage.
Contact Peter Nicholls (01892 530330) or e-mail peter.nicholls@vawk.org.uk
Includes us 2: Ashford/Shepway/Dover coverage.
Contact Gillian Wells (07970 928425) or Debs Aspland (07832 196 956)
both on IncludesUs2@hotmail.com.
Interviews 16 December.
For Us 2: Canterbury/Thanet/Swale coverage.
Contact Ivan O'Reilly (01227 741748), or e mail Ivan.OReilly@childrensociety.org.uk.
Interviews early January.

DMS

Plasterer/Multi-Skilled Repairs Person

Required for immediate start. To work for our family run business based near Folkestone although will need to work throughout Kent. Must be over 21 with full clean driving licence due to insurance cover. Hours and rates of pay negotiable.

Please telephone Fiona on 01303 248828 to enquire or email Fiona@dmspropertymaintenance.co.uk

Temporary position with possibility of becoming permanent

Cleaning Supervisor and Cleaners

Required for schools in Tenterden and Ashford

Previous experience required for supervisor position. 3.30pm till 9.00pm, Monday to Friday

Competitive Rates of Pay

Please contact the office on 01622 717414

Maidstone Care Centre
259 Boxley Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 2AR

57 bedded nursing/residential home
Requires the following staff

REGISTERED GENERAL NURSES

For mainly night duty. Full or part time

CARE ASSISTANTS

For days and nights. Full or part time.

To apply contact Sue/Beve on
01622 672292 during office hours only.

SIX MILE GARAGE LTD
Stone Street, Stelling Minnis, Canterbury, Kent
Require a
VEHICLE TECHNICIAN/MOT TESTER
Experienced in the use of diagnostic equipment would be an advantage. Wages negotiable

Contact Mr Harling 01227 709214

Young Persons' Drug and Alcohol Worker – Early Intervention

£21,519 – £27,849 plus Essential Car User Allowance up to £1,239 per annum
Based Maidstone

KCA is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a high range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors

You will be involved in delivering a range of community based services for young people who use/misuse drugs, or are at risk of doing so. This includes early intervention and prevention initiatives with targeted groups of young people giving advice and information, raising awareness, educating about the risks of using substances and other risk taking behaviours You will be required to deliver a variety of group work initiatives, in a range of settings, some of which are structured school based programmes The post involves working closely with other agencies and professionals.

You need to have good substance misuse knowledge excellent communication and engagement skills, group work experience and the ability to be creative and innovative. Proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users is essential.

An application form and job description can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk Alternatively, you can email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference number 731.

Closing date: 20 December 2010.
Interview date: TBC.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk

Progressive, Responsive, Effective

Care Assistants and Senior Carers

Applecroft Care Home LTD are currently seeking enthusiastic and motivated staff for their 75 bedded EMI/Nursing Home in River, Dover.

We are looking for Care staff who have experience of working with elderly residents with Dementia and Nursing needs.

This is an exciting opportunity to use your skills within a supportive and flexible team environment.

Salary negotiable depending on experience and NVQ qualifications

For more information please contact Miss Kate Sheppard Home Manager on 01304 821 331or Email kate@abbeyhealthcare.org.uk

Quality
is a feature of everyday life

AUDLEY

Homecarers
Tunbridge Wells area
From £7.00ph

Do you share our commitment to quality care? We are looking for Homecarers who can give local clients assistance in their own homes and help them enjoy quality of life with whatever level of support they require.

Our excellent benefits include mileage allowance, choice of shifts & health care plan.

To apply call Lauren on 0871 226 3775 or email recruitment@audleycare.co.uk

Operations Manager Psychological Therapy Services

£38,042 – £45,202 plus Essential Car User Allowance of up to £1,239 per annum
37 hours per week • Based East Kent and Medway

KCA (UK) Psychological Therapy Providers (PTP) provide a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services which are ranked within the top 25% nationally. Combining clinical expertise, a wide range of high-quality provision and constantly improving effectiveness, our psychological therapy services have achieved significant growth including the award of major new contracts in Kent, Surrey and Havering in recent years.

Your role will be to lead the ongoing development of the service and to ensure that all contractual obligations are achieved across East Kent. In addition to managing the teams working across the area, you will build strong professional relationships with commissioning bodies and partnership organisations. You will create a team-focused ethos within the service and support staff to promote sustained delivery improvements.

Whilst you do not need to be a qualified Psychological Therapist, you must bring an in-depth understanding of current psychological therapy practices. Knowledge and understanding of the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) initiative would be an advantage. Proven management experience ideally gained in a similar setting is essential, combined with a self-motivated approach, first-rate communication skills and the ability to influence thinking at all levels.

If you have the ambition to make this high-potential role your own, you will enjoy the real opportunity to make a major impact on our future.

An application form and job description can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk You can also email recruitment@kca.org.uk or telephone 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference 730.

Closing date: 9 December 2010.
Interview date: Early in January 2011.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all. Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk

Progressive, Responsive, Effective

The future of local media

Would you like to be a part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent's towns and districts?

Media Sales Executives

We have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines.

We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers.

We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers.

Telephone Sales Executive

You will play the key role in selling advertising across our market leading portfolio of newspapers, websites and mobile products.

Candidates may possess a track record in telephone sales, combining excellent communication skills, tenacity and the ability to build relationships.

Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured and positive manner.

Your might also be looking to enter media as a career within sale and this would be an excellent starting point.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

Christine Davidson, Commercial Director
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,
Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth,
Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS
Or by email: christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk

KOS media
Award Winning Company
KOS Media is a division ARCHANT REGIONAL

Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: **www.jobsforkent.co.uk**

KOSMEDIA | Telephone: 01303 817040 | Fax: 01303 817004 | Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk | Online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Staff Nurse (Ashford)

1 Full-time and 1 Part-time position
Closing date for applications - Monday 6th December 2010
Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)
To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Debbie Burr – 01233 616201 Ext: 86202
For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com
The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Staff Nurse (Margate)

Full-time position
Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)
To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Liz Justice – 01843 234555 Ext: 62207
For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com
The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Thamesview SCHOOL

with Business and Enterprise status
Headteacher:
Rhiannon Hughes NB.Ed. Hons

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

28.5 hours a week (5 days)
Term time only - 39 wks per year (includes Staff Development Days)
Kent Salary Scheme 3 points 7-11 (£14,009.00 to £15,984.00 pa)
Pro rata to £9,163.70 - £10,388.87 pa

A friendly and adaptable person is required to work with an identified subject area, to proactively support students with their learning. It would be an advantage to have an interest or experience of Maths/Science or ICT, although this is not essential. You will help students to maximise their levels of achievement and independence. Experience in schools is essential, together with a good level of numeracy and literacy (Level 2 or equivalent).

To apply please submit with your application to Kay Allen, HR Manager, a letter outlining your reasons for wanting this position, together with evidence of why you are suitable for the role, and how you have developed your skills in previous roles in readiness for this position.

Further details and application forms may be obtained from our HR Manager by email at k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk or by telephoning 01474 566552 ext 8081120.

Closing Date: 10th December 2010 at 10.00 am
Interviews: 16th December 2010
CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Appointment to this post is subject to a criminal background check via the disclosure procedure.
Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy.
23 November 2010

Find a job online

Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk
The smart way to find a job in the County

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✔ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✔ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✔ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
- ✔ Free use of resource centre
- ✔ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:
0800 731 6871
or email
enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

CAPITA EDUCATION RESOURCING
(Agy)
Committed to equal opportunities

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008 Email: harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Voluntary Controlled School with specialisms in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities
An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including
300 in the co-educational Sixth Form

School Laboratory Technician

Grade: D2 – Salary: £15,039 - £19,126 per annum pro-rata (£11,248 - £14,304)
Hours: 1 Technician 35 hours per week term time only

Due to the retirement of a current member of staff this highly successful grammar school requires a science technician who will be based in the biology department from 4th January 2011.

You will be a motivated, conscientious and a reliable person able to work effectively as a member of a team as well as individually. Experienced in a laboratory environment with school technician experience an advantage.

Offer of appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Please contact Mrs J Harrison, Headteacher's PA for an application form and job description by telephoning: 01634 844008 or e-mail to harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

You may also wish to download an application and job description from our vacancy page on the school's website: www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

Closing Date: Wednesday, 8th December 2010

To advertise in this section ✆ 01303 817040

Westlands Academies Trust

The Westlands School
Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne,Kent ME10 1PF
This is a popular co-educational 11-18 school with a Grammar Stream and an expanding Sixth Form which seeks to appoint

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Required to support in the PD/Dyslexia Provisions

There are two temporary roles to support named children.
Applicants should have the necessary skills to support pupils who have various learning, sensory or physical difficulties in mainstream classes, in small groups or on an individual basis.

Kent Pay Band 2/3 £12,903 - £15,984 (pro rata)

30 hours a week, term time only (equivalent to £8,627 - £10,687)
16.25 hours a week, term time only (equivalent to £4,673 - £5,789)

Ofsted Report 2008
"The Westlands School provides an outstanding quality of education and care for its pupils"

Recruitment packs are available from the school or online.
Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.
Closing date: Friday 10 December 2010

Westlands Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Headteacher: J Whitcombe MA
Westlands Academies Trust Company No 7344732

Bright new careers online

Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk
The smart way to find a job in the County

POWERED BY
KOS MEDIA

Bradstow School

Teachers do amazing things

If you would like to join our teachers at Bradstow, we are confident that:
- It will probably be the hardest teaching job you will ever have.
- It will certainly be the most satisfying.

Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved international recognition for Leadership and our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

Professional and personal qualities in this specialised and challenging field are very important. Experience, whilst helpful is not essential. Extensive and on-going training and support of all staff is at the core of the success of the school. All teachers are fully trained and supported in Gentle Teaching, TEACCH, Prospect PBS, PECS and other Augmentative Communication Systems as well as being provided with other specialist skills. You will also be supported and encouraged to further develop your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies.

OFSTED 2009 said,
"Bradstow is an outstanding school"
"The curriculum and the quality of teaching and support are exceptional"
"It is to the tremendous credit of a highly skilled and well-qualified team of teachers and support staff that they enable pupils to overcome and cope with the substantial learning and emotional barriers that they face"
"Bradstow is a very complex organisation and a centre of excellence in its own field"

If you would like to join our team, and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, give us a call. Be in no doubt, this is a challenging working environment for which you will need to be committed to the needs of the child and the school. In return we offer a highly rewarding and satisfying career, with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well!

For SEN specialists, the second SEN point may be available.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk
Please note that CVs will not be considered.
Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 10th December 2010.

www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

JobsforKent.co.uk

A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

Trainee Home Insulation Surveyor - Immediate Start

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
Autonomous Lead Generators and Home Insulation Surveyors Wanted in Maidstone... * Full On-Site Surveying Workshops! * Must be Able to Work Independently & Be Willing to Travel! Increasing customer demand to reduce carbon emissions and utility funding for cavity insulation has resulted in a new division for our company! Whilst we are traditionally marketing & sales company, our most recent client in the building industry has unique needs. We are looking to contract self-motivated and enthusiastic individuals to join our successful division of lead generators and surveyors in the Maidstone area! Generation Meeting with potential home owners face to face to explain our client's services Generating leads and getting referrals for potentially qualified home owners Basic customer service, answering queries and scheduling surveying appointments Once you've proven a solid understanding of the client’s product and can prove you are able to source your customers, we can offer advice and guidance on surveying so you will be able to conduct property surveys. Surveying Following up on leads to determine if the property qualifies for the government scheme Taking measurements and sketching the property Scheduling an appointment for the customer's loft insulation No previous experience is required as we will provide full product training through both practical and theoretical workshops. However, knowledge of construction, property development and building structures can speed up the process! Earnings are accumulated on a daily basis, and rewarded only on completed sales. Ideal candidates will: Be driven to take control of their own future. Enjoy working with people, but be capable of working independently To apply please send your CV and a contact number. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age and willing to spend a full day in the field observing an experienced independent surveyor before a final offer is made.
To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@
jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: TRSR/2911

Customer Service, Call Centre

Customer Service/ Retail Sales Experience Wanted

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
Client and Customer Service Experience Welcome JK Marketing Services was established to service an emergence in the market for quality face to face customer acquisition teams in the UK. With an industry of offices in every major city across the UK and Ireland, the national coverage we provide our clients with; both niche and mass market, puts us in a powerful position in the marketplace. Based in Maidstone, JK Marketing Service work with international companies in industries ranging from, construction to cosmetics, telecoms, financial services, power and even charities. Demand for our experience and the results we produce has soared as our reputation and client base spreads in the UK and rest of Europe. Face to Face customer acquisition places will be involved in helping customers make educated decisions through our extensive marketing campaigns designed to target decision makers where they work, live and shop. No specific experience is required since we provide all necessary information workshops that allow people to develop at their own pace. Our services are in high demand due to current trends in marketing strategies. We’ve proven to be a reliable source of new customer acquisition for our clients and will continue to grow our portfolio over the coming years. Earnings are accumulated on a daily basis, and rewarded only on completed sales. This is an excellent opportunity for people looking to take control of their own future. Thanks for your interest in JK Marketing Services! Successful applicants will hear from a member of our administrative team within 2-4 business days. We will arrange a time to meet where we will discuss your CV and learn more about your ambitions and goals. You will have the opportunity to learn more about our company history, growth plans and our openings.
To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@
jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: csrs/2911

Sales Person

Aylesford
Salary TBC
Sales Person
Maidstone Company require a Sales Person Market Engineering product sales involving all aspects of the sales cycle from prospecting/cold calling, client consultation and presentations through to closing and ensuring smooth implementation and handover of contracts dept. Responsibilities Developing existing customer relationships. To sell our portfolio of products and services to new clients. To prospect for new business in a variety of ways including cold calling and utilisation of lead sources. Preparation of sales proposals for prospective clients. Sales support, making appointments for potential clients through a variety of methods (mainly telephony based) and following up appointments with information required to progress the sale. To ensure accurate reporting back to management, to ensure activities and targets are met. Maintain CRM data. Personal Criteria Relevant sales or tele-marketing experience in technology or service products. A proven ability to hit targets. Educated to a standard complementary to an executive role. Minimum requirement, GCSE Maths and English or equivalent. Excellent communication skills and telephone manner. Outgoing, friendly character. Good listening skills. Ambitious and self driven. If you feel you have the relevant skills and experience then please send your CV to Mark Fletcher at mark@fercell.com or telephone 01622 882916.
To apply/more information:
Fercell
mark@fercell.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Refrigeration Engineers

Sittingbourne
Salary Negotiable
Refrigeration Engineers. F-Gas Certified. Tired of working on ‘low tech equipment? Thermotron Industries manufactures ‘high tech' equipment used by technical experts in engineering and product qualification laboratories all over Europe.As a leading manufacturer of environmental chambers, we'll keep your stimulated with an interesting career, training and some European travel.
Thermotron offers you:Work that's interesting and challenging.High tech equipment to work on (say goodbye to air conditioners and chillers).Ongoing professional training.Access to factory technical advisors. (Support when you are on site!)Frequent travel to Europe. A company provided vehicle and benefits.Security for the future. We are well established. If you are currently a qualified refrigeration engineer with F-Gas certification and are looking for the opportunity to get ahead, don't delay, apply now to:email: tkennedy@thermotron.comOr post to:Thermotron Industries Newton House, Winch Road, Kent Science Park Sittingbourne Kent.
To apply/more information:
Thermotron Industries
info@thermotron.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Insurance, Banking, Finance

Sales Advisor/ Sales Assistant/ Field Sales

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
How much are you worth? YOU decide!! JK Marketing Services is actively seeking creative

JobsforKent.co.uk The smart way to find a job in the County

Jobs by Email

Be the first to receive the latest Kent Jobs

professionals who are serious about long term success in a marketing development opportunity. A positive and energetic attitude is a must for all candidates. Why JK? JK Marketing Services is committed to setting a standard of excellence for our clients, as well as providing each individual with a unique opportunity. Our clients used to rely on the traditional forms of marketing: TV, radio, billboards, spam, print, direct mail and telemarketing to get their messages across to customers. The JK Way We represent our clients to the public with a professionalism and enthusiasm. Meeting with them face to face means we build a personal relationship with them, educate them and make them aware of their options. Our residential campaigns reach a high percentage of the population & saturating the market to help our clients increase their customer base. No experience is necessary as we can provide advice and insight into all areas listed below. Our marketing and communications experts provide full product knowledge to the right candidates. Although we are not looking for specific educational qualifications or experience, the following characteristics are mandatory: You must be a people person You must be ambitious You must have a strong work ethic. You must value integrity We're looking for future partners not employees! Due to the nature of the openings and the number of people currently looking for work in Kent, multiple interviews will be involved for selected candidates including spending the full day in the field with an experienced member of our team to gain a full understanding of your initial responsibilities.

To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@
jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: SAFS/2911

Sales Advisor/ Sales Assistant/ Field Sales

Maidstone

Salary Negotiable

How much are you worth? YOU decide!! JK Marketing Services is actively seeking creative professionals who are serious about long term success in a marketing development opportunity. A positive and energetic attitude is a must for all candidates. Why JK? JK Marketing Services is committed to setting a standard of excellence for our clients, as well as providing each individual with a unique opportunity. Our clients used to rely on the traditional forms of marketing: TV, radio, billboards, spam, print, direct mail and telemarketing to get their messages across to customers. The JK Way We represent our clients to the public with a professionalism and enthusiasm. Meeting with them face to face means we build a personal relationship with them, educate them and make them aware of their options. Our residential campaigns reach a high percentage of the population & saturating the market to help our clients increase their customer base. No experience is necessary as we can provide advice and insight into all areas listed below. Our marketing and communications experts provide full product knowledge to the right candidates. Although we are not looking for specific educational qualifications or experience, the following characteristics are mandatory: You must be a people person You must be ambitious You must have a strong work ethic You must value integrity We're looking for future partners not employees! Due to the nature of the openings and the number of people currently looking for work in Kent, multiple interviews will be involved for selected candidates including spending the full day in the field with an experienced member of our team to gain a full understanding of your initial responsibilities.

To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@
jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: SAFS/2911

Junior Marketing Openings - Immediate Starts Available

Maidstone

Salary Negotiable

How much are you worth? YOU decide!! JK Marketing Servies is actively seeking creative professionals who are serious about long term success in a marketing development opportunity. A positive and energetic attitude is a must for all candidates. Why JK? JK Marketing Services is committed to setting a standard of excellence for our clients, as well as providing each individual with a unique opportunity. Our clients used to rely on the traditional forms of marketing; TV, Radio, Billboards, Spam, Print, Direct Mail and Telemarketing to get their messages across to customers. The JK Way - We represent our clients to the public with a professionalism and enthusiasm. Meeting with them face to face means we build a personal relationship with them, educate them and make them aware of their options. Our residential campaigns reach a high percentage of the population & saturating the market to help our clients increase their customer base. No experience necessary as we can provide advice and insight into all areas listed below. Our marketing and communications experts provide full product knowledge to the right candidates. Although we are not looking for specific educational qualifications or experience, the following characteristics are mandatory; You must be a people person You must be ambitious You must have a strong work ethic You must value integrity WE ARE LOOKING FOR FUTURE PARTNERS NOT EMPLOYEES!!! Due to the nature of the openings and for the number of people currently looking for work in Kent, multiple interviews will be involved for selected candidates. If you believe you can rise to the challenge and you share our passion for excellence in all areas of field sales we would love to hear from you. *ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE 18+ YEARS OF AGE AND AVAILABLE FOR FULL TIME HOURS*.

To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@
jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: JR0/2911

MOT tester/ mechanic

Sutton Valence

Salary Negotiable

MOT tester/mechanic required for a small village garage south of Maidstone. Mon- Fri and alternate Sat. mornings. Good basic wages plus profit sharing. Ring 01622 842776.

To apply/more information:
Hilltop Garage
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Person

Aylesford

Salary TBC

Sales Person

Maidstone Company require a Sales Person Market Engineering product sales involving all aspects of the sales cycle from prospecting/cold calling, client consultation and presentations through to closing and ensuring smooth implementation and handover of contracts dept. Responsibilities Developing existing customer relationships. To sell our portfolio of products and services to new clients. To prospect for new business in a variety of ways including cold calling and utilisation of lead sources. Preparation of sales proposals for prospective clients. Sales support, making appointments for potential clients through a variety of methods (mainly telephony based) and following up appointments with information required to progress the sale. To ensure accurate reporting back to management, to ensure activities and targets are met. Maintain CRM data. Personal Criteria Relevant sales or tele-marketing experience in technology or service products. A proven ability to hit targets. Educated to a standard complementary to an executive role. Minimum requirement, GCSE Maths and English or equivalent. Excellent communication skills and telephone manner. Outgoing, friendly character. Good listening skills. Ambitious and self driven. If you feel you have the relevant skills and experience then please send your CV to Mark Fletcher at mark@fercell.com or telephone 01622 882916.

To apply/more information:
Fercell
mark@fercell.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Customer Service/ Retail Sales Experience Wanted

Maidstone

Salary Negotiable

Client and Customer Service Experience Welcome JK Marketing Services was established to service an emergence in the market for quality face to face customer acquisition teams in the UK. With an industry of offices in every major city across the UK and Ireland, the national coverage we provide our clients with; both niche and mass market, puts us in a powerful position in the marketplace. Based in Maidstone, JK Marketing Service work with international companies in industries ranging from, construction to cosmetics, telecoms, financial services, power and even charities. Demand for our experience and the results we produce has soared as our reputation and client base spreads in the UK and rest of Europe. Face to Face customer acquisition places will be involved in helping customers make educated decisions through our extensive marketing campaigns designed to target decision makers where they work, live and shop. No specific experience is required since we provide all necessary information workshops that allow people to develop at their own pace. Our services are in high demand due to current trends in marketing strategies. We’ve proven to be a reliable source of new customer acquisition for our clients and will continue to grow our portfolio over the coming years. Earnings are accumulated on a daily basis, and rewarded only on completed sales. This is an excellent opportunity for people looking to take control of their own future. Thanks for your interest in JK Marketing Services! Successful applicants will hear from a member of our administrative team within 2-4 business days. We will arrange a time to meet where we will discuss your CV and learn more about your ambitions and goals. You will have the opportunity to learn more about our company history, growth plans and our openings.

To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@
jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: csrs/2911

MOT tester/ mechanic

Sutton Valence

Salary Negotiable

MOT tester/mechanic required for a small village garage south of Maidstone. Mon- Fri and alternate Sat. mornings. Good basic wages plus profit sharing. Ring 01622 842776

To apply/more information:
Hilltop Garage
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/03491/HOUSE White Cottage Goudhurst Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Single storey side extension and internal alterations, removal of dormer window and replacement rooflights and removal of chimney on the north east corner (LB)

10/03754/FUL Hayselden Cottage The Common, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Conversion of outbuilding to holiday let (LB)

10/03755/LBC Hayselden Cottage The Common, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of outbuilding to holiday let (LB)

10/03756/LBC Hayselden Cottage The Common, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent: Internal alterations to form dressing room and shower room within bedroom one (LB)

10/03752/HOUSE School Lodge Furnace Lane, Lamberhurst
- Timber built double garage to replace existing wooden garage (LB)

10/03825/LBC Hook Green House Clayhill Road, Lamberhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Main House - Removal of existing window; take down brickwork from cill to ground floor; install new painted timber/glazed doors. Barn - Remove existing internal doors and increase size of opening between north and south parts of existing 'barn'; installation of new painted timber window behind stable door on west elevation of barn; like for like replacement of existing painted timber stable door; removal of existing window; take down brickwork from cill to ground floor; install new painted timber/glazed doors; alterations of existing roof structure over north part of barn; remove existing ceiling joists and replace with 2 no. oak beams; install 3 no. velux conservation rooflights within existing plain tile roof (LB)

10/03798/FUL Pearsons Corner Willow Lane, Paddock Wood
- Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of replacement dwelling (alterations to TW/08/01116 to provide replacement garage and house realignment) (LB)

10/03671/HOUSE 35 Madeira Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Single-storey side extension (CA)

10/03746/HOUSE 5 Poona Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Single storey side and rear extension (CA)

10/03759/HOUSE The Old Warehouse Mount Sion, Pantiles & St Marks
- External and internal alterations to existing annexe (CA

10/03680/HOUSE The Stocks Shandon Close, Park
- Replacement of flat roof with pitched roof and raise existing pitched roof over dining room. Creation of eight rooflights and alterations to existing windows to east and south elevations (CA)

10/03704/FUL 13 High Street Pembury, Pembury
- Change of use from office to dwelling with internal and external alterations (CA)

10/03800/HOUSE Stanton House Romford Road, Pembury
- Demolish existing single-storey flat roof side extension and replace with single-storey pitched/flat roof side extension (LB)

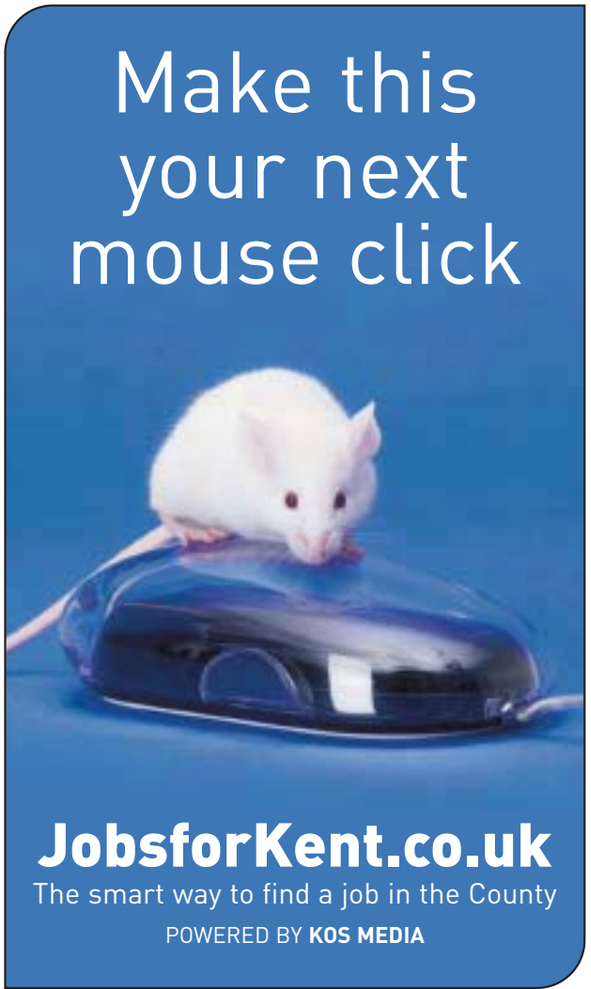
10/03801/LBC Stanton House Romford Road, Pembury
- Listed Building Consent - Demolish existing single-storey flat roof side extension and replace with single-storey pitched/flat roof side extension (LB)

10/03744/FUL Grove House Holden Road, Southborough North
- Addition of new front canopy and rear orangery to partially completed approved new house (LB) (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement. You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date. You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 04 December 2010



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Old Town Hall, High Street, Gravesend**
Applicant: **Michelle Boyd**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
1st Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, ME14 1XX

Highways – Shepway District

CONNAUGHT ROAD, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Connaught Road, Folkestone, on or after 6 December 2010 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Guildhall Street.

The alternative route is via Guildhall Street, Coolinge Road and Cheriton Road.

RADNOR STREET, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Radnor Street, Folkestone, on or after 6 December 2010 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Tram Road. There will be no access for though traffic between Tram Road and The Stade area.

The alternative routes are

East bound (to The Stade) via A260 Tontine Street, A2033 Dover Road, Southern Way, Warren Road, Wear Bay Crescent, Wear Bay Road, East Cliff Gardens, The Durlocks and North Street.

West bound (from The Stade) via North Street, The Durlocks, East Cliff Gardens, Wear Bay Road, Wear Bay Crescent, Warren Road and Tram Road.

Please note this date is different to that originally publicised.

ROLFE LANE, NEW ROMNEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because works to provide a new sewer connection, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rolfe Lane, New Romney, on or after 20 December 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between number 11 and the junction with Walner Lane.

The alternative route is via Rolfe Lane, Ashford Road and Cockreed Lane.

For further information please contact Kent Highway services on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

KOS
Driving
www.carsforkent.co.uk

Sponsored by
AVC
www.activevehicles.co.uk
Telephone (01227) 281818

Nissan win shows industry is turning over a new Leaf

By **STEVE LOADER**

SO the die has been cast. The 2011 European Car of the Year award has been won by the Nissan Leaf – probably the first practical all-electric production car.

The runners-up were two far more exciting cars, but conventional ones nevertheless, so this was a victory for new technology made all the more emphatic because the Europe-wide panel of leading motoring writers has rarely favoured contestants from outside that continent.

The fact remains though that while the scribes were impressed by the plug-in appeal of the Leaf, who will buy this Japanese pioneer?

It won't be cheap. Even with a £5,000 government grant, it will cost £23,990 when it arrives in the UK next March.

Prices may ease relatively though once production of the car and its batteries start at Nissan's Sunderland UK plant in 2013, and there is economy of scale through other electric models from Nissan and its French parent, Renault.

Despite an eye-watering price that could get you into bigger cars with snobbier brand credentials than Nissan's, the zero-emission Leaf will attract committed environmentalist councils, companies and individuals though, as always, I question what emissions are being generated elsewhere in order to charge any electric car.

Once bought, the Leaf will also have minimal 'fuel costs' and be exempt from road tax, though we can be sure that any government will move to shore up this twin tax loss if there is a stampede towards electric cars.

On the other hand, conventional cars may be harder to give up, especially when they are as attractive as the two runners-up in this year's Car of the Year contest which attracted 40 entries, slashed to just seven finalists.

Number two was the glamorous Alfa Romeo Giulietta, which attracts with eco-friendly diesel power options as much as it does with looks, pace and driving pleasure – 'also-ran' status will be hard to bear for the resurgent Fiat group brand.

Vauxhall is also entitled to be miffed with a number three slot for the second generation Meriva, a rarity in the MPV world because it is as attractive and nice to drive as it is versatile. A neat innovation is its wider-opening doors, with the back pair also opening rearwards giving easier access for kids and parents strapping them in.

Top slot would also have been nice for the General Motors brand after its brilliant Astra was pipped last year by the classy but hardly radical VW Polo.

Volvo too will be upset that its first serious S60 challenger in the compact exec car sector was also relegated to sixth.

The final placings and points were:

1) Nissan Leaf – 257 points (above)
2) Alfa Romeo Giulietta – 248 points (left)
3) Vauxhall Meriva – 244 points
4) Ford C-Max – 224 points
5) Citroen C3/DS3 – 175 points
6) Volvo S60/V60 – 145 points
7) Dacia Duster – 132 points (not yet available in UK)

AVC For absolutely any make of car or commercial vehicle – we're the business!

"AUTOMATICALLY THE BEST"

The U.K.'s first and best Automatic Vehicle Specialist

NEARLY NEW 2010 60 59 09 REG CARS

2010 (10) NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC 4WD SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLE AUTO, BLACK, 1000 miles £19,995
2010 (59) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles £14,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 miles £13,995
2010 (10) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles £12,995
2010 (10) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1000 miles £11,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £11,495
2010 (10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £10,995
2009 (09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £10,995
2010 (60) CITROEN NEMO 8V HDI TURBO MPV AUTO, RED, 100 miles £9,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £9,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIV 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles £9,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £9,495
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles £9,495
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 miles £8,995
2010 (10) NISSAN PIXO N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 500 miles £7,995

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS

2009 (09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 20000 miles £26,000
2008 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £7,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £7,995
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £7,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles £6,995

FIESTA

2007 (57) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAUVEPURPLEVIOLET, 3000 miles £6,495
2006 (56) FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 1600 miles, yes really under 2000 miles from new £5,995

FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

2009 (09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £10,995
2008 (58) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles £9,995
2008 (08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles £8,995
2008 (57) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £6,995
2005 (55) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 miles £6,495
2003 (53) FORD FOCUS GHIA 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 44000 miles £3,995

FOCUS ESTATES

2006 (56) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles £7,495

RENAULT SCENIC

2010 (59) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles £14,995
2007 (07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE DCI 130 FAP 5STR TD MPV AUTO, GOLD, 9000 miles £9,995
2007 (07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 13000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles £7,995
2008 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles £7,995
2008 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £6,995
2006 (56) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles £6,495
2006 (56) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT MPV AUTO, GOLD, 29000 miles £5,995
2004 (54) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE 16V MPV AUTO, BLACK, 27000 miles £5,495

RENAULT

2008 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles £8,995
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles £7,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £7,995
2008 (58) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles £7,995
2008 (58) RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles £6,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles £6,995
2006 (56) RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOURER 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £6,995
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, GOLD, 17000 miles £5,995
2007 (07) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles £5,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MODUS PRIVILEGE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 39000 miles £4,995

CHEVROLET

2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £6,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles £6,995
2009 (09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £6,995
2009 (58) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £6,995
2009 (09) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1200 miles £6,495
2008 (08) CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £5,995
2008 (57) CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £5,495
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £4,995
2006 (56) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles £4,995
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £4,995
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles £4,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles £4,995

HYUNDAI

2008 (08) HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles £9,995
2007 (56) HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, RED, 4000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) HYUNDAI MATRIX COMFORT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £7,495
2009 (09) HYUNDAI I10 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 7000 miles £6,995
2008 (58) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 miles £5,995
2006 (56) HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 miles £5,995
2007 (07) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £5,495

KIA

2008 (58) KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) KIA RIO ICE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £5,495

DAIHATSU

2008 (08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £7,495
2007 (07) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles £6,995
2007 (07) DAIHATSU SIRION 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles £6,995

FIAT

2006 (56) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles £4,995
2007 (56) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 25000 miles £4,995

FUSION

2008 (08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 3000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles £5,995

CITROEN

2010 (60) CITROEN NEMO 8V HDI TURBO MPV AUTO, RED, 100 miles £9,995
2008 (58) CITROEN C4 SX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1800 miles £8,995
2007 (57) CITROEN C3 SX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, DIABLO RED, 13000 miles £5,995
2002 (02) CITROEN SAXO DESIRE 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 54000 miles £2,995

MONDEO

2006 (56) FORD MONDEO LX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 24000 miles £6,995

CORSA

2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £11,495
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £9,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles £9,495
2009 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles £8,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 4000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles £8,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £8,495
2007 (57) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 5000 miles £7,495
2008 (57) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 9000 miles £6,995

MAZDA

2008 (58) MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) MAZDA 3 3 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles £8,995
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles £7,995
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles £7,995
2007 (56) MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £5,995

SUZUKI

2009 (B) SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 16V ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 13000 miles £12,995
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles £9,495
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995

TOYOTA

2007 (6) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £13,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 16000 miles £13,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, GREY, 16000 miles £13,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, RED, 25000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) TOYOTA AVENSIS T3-X VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 19000 miles £9,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £8,995
2007 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 COLOUR COLLECTION VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 14000 miles £7,995
2007 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, IXION BLUE, 13000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles £6,995
2005 (55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 3DR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 5000 miles £6,995
2004 (54) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1750 miles £6,995
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 6000 miles £6,295
2007 (57) TOYOTA AYGO VVT-I+ 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £5,495
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles £5,495

NISSAN

2010 (10) NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC 4WD SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLE AUTO, BLACK, 1000 miles £19,995
2008 (58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £14,495
2008 (08) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £13,995
2010 (10) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1000 miles £11,995
2007 (57) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles £11,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 miles £8,995
2009 (59) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 7000 miles £8,495
2009 (59) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles £8,495
2010 (10) NISSAN PIXO N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 500 miles £7,995
2008 (08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, RED, 14000 miles £7,995
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 18000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 14000 miles £5,995
2006 (56) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £5,995
2004 (04) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ARUBA BLUE, 12000 miles £4,995
2002 (02) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 19000 miles £2,995

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2010 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIV 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £6,995

ASTRA ESTATES

2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, SILVER, 14000 miles £6,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 15000 miles £6,995
2006 (56) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 miles £6,495
2006 (56) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles £5,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

2009 (59) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 miles £13,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £12,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £10,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £9,495
2009 (59) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £8,495
2006 (56) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 16000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL AGILA CLUB MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, TURQUOISE, 13000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £6,995
2006 (56) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £6,495
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £5,995
2004 (54) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 78000 miles £3,995

CHRYSLER

2007 (57) CHRYSLER PT CRUISER LIMITED 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 13000 miles £6,995

PEUGEOT

2007 (57) PEUGEOT 307 SW SE ESTATE AUTO, RED, 12000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) PEUGEOT 207 SPORT 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 miles £6,995
2007 (07) PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 17000 miles £6,495
2006 (56) PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles £5,995
2007 (07) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 2-TRONIC 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles £5,495

MITSUBISHI

2007 (57) MITSUBISHI LANCER ELEGANCE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 19000 miles £6,995

HONDA

2007 (07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 24000 miles £17,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 19000 miles £15,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 11000 miles £15,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SPORT ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles £13,995
2006 (06) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 26000 miles £11,995
2009 (58) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £10,995
2009 (09) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles £10,995
2008 (58) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £10,495
2007 (07) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 8000 miles £8,995
2006 (56) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £7,995

MERCEDES

2009 (09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 20000 miles £26,000
2007 (57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 23000 miles £13,995
2008 (57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180 KOMPRESSOR SE SPORTS COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 22000 miles £13,995
2008 (58) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A170 AVANTGARDE SE LWB 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 16000 miles £13,995
2007 (07) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE SWB HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles £8,995
2003 (53) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A140 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 46000 miles £4,995

VOLKSWAGEN

2010 (10) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles £12,995
2008 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles £11,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles £9,995
2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 17000 miles £9,995
2006 (06) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1400 miles £8,995
2008 (58) VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH 3DR AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 13000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP) 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £7,495
2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 3DR HATCH AUTO, REFLEX SILVER, 16000 miles £7,495
2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 22000 miles £6,995
2001 (L) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 71000 miles £3,495
2001 (Y) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 miles £2,995

DIESEL AUTOMATICS

2009 (09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £12,995
2007 (07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE DCI 130 FAP 5STR TD MPV AUTO, GOLD, 9000 miles £9,995

MORRIS'S MANUAL CARS

2007 (57) VAUXHALL MERIVA ENERGY CDTI TD MPV, BLACK, 24000 miles £6,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI MATRIX CLASSIC MPV, BLACK, 8000 miles £5,995
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles £5,495
2007 (07) FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC 5DR HATCH, GREY, 8000 miles £4,995
2007 (07) KIA PICANTO LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 miles £4,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles £4,995
2008 (08) RENAULT TWINGO DYNAMIQUE 3DR HATCH, ORANGE, 35000 miles £4,995
2005 (05) VAUXHALL AGILA ENJOY 16V TWINPORT MPV, GOLD, 20000 miles £3,995
2004 (04) PEUGEOT 206 SE 5DR HATCH, MOONSTONE SILVER, 36000 miles £3,995
2002 (52) FORD FOCUS ELLE 3DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 51000 miles £3,495
2001 (Y) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 miles £2,995

SKODA

2008 (58) SKODA ROOMSTER 2 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £8,995

www.automaticcarsltd.co.uk

ONLINE ALL DAY EVERY DAY

Ray Morris Automatic Cars

No hidden extras, all prices include a twelve month free guarantee and new MOT if required.
Only genuine mileage cars offered for sale

2 BRANCHES AT

21 WATLING STREET,
BEXLEYHEATH
01322 524680

42 HIGH STREET, WELLING
020 8303 4030

VISA Electron

Pomphreys
Always something extra

Network Q Multi-Point Check

Comprehensive warranty

Network Q Ownership Promise

12 months cover on brakes, battery & clutch

30 day exchange

Nationwide vehicle search

SALES MANAGERS SPECIAL

2010 '10' REG VAUXHALL ZAFIRA

Energy 1.8 5 Door, only 4,325 miles. Finished in black Sapphire

ONLY £8,995

USED CARS

AGILA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlantis blue	9,350	8,995

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Astra Active Estate	1.6	5	Silver lightening	18,950	5,995
06	06	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	37,000	5,995
06	56	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Metro blue	25,000	6,795
08	58	Astra Elite	1.6	5	Star silver	13,775	8,495
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Silver lightening		10,495
09	59	Astra Sports Twin top	1.8	2	Air blue	3,320	14,995
09	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	3,990	8,995
09	59	Astra Active Sports hatch	1.4	3	Sovereign silver	8,040	9,995

SALES MANAGERS SPECIAL

10	**59**	**Astra VXR**	**2.0**	**3**	**Arden blue**	**5,660**	**16,995**

only £16995 Price New £23325. Saving £6330 off new price

10	10	Astra Active	1.6	5	Star silver	5,010	11,495
10	10	Astra Sri X Pack	1.8	3	Black sapphire	3,490	13,995
10	10	Astra Sri CDTi	2.0	5	Black sapphire	3,330	18,995
10	10	New Astra Sri CDTi	1.7D	5	Power red	4,880	15,995
10	10	Astra Exclusive Auto	1.6	5	Silver lake	1,100	14,995
10	10	New Astra Exclusive	1.4	5	Iceberg blue	3,000	12,995
10	10	Astra Sport Sports hatch	1.4	3	Power red	2,065	11,995
10	10	New Astra Exclusive	1.6	5	Technical grey	1,790	13,995
10	10	New Astra Exclusive	1.6	5	Black sapphire	2,210	13,995

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Corsa Club	1.4	5	Star silver	17,050	6,850
07	07	Corsa Life A/c	1.0	3	Flame red	42,500	5,395
07	07	Corsa Life A/c	1.0	3	Flame red	44,500	5,395
07	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Flame red	49,370	6,495
08	08	Corsa Design	1.4	5	Silver lightening	14,800	7,695
08	08	Corsa Breeze Plus	1.2	3	Silver lightening	16,900	7,495
08	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Star silver	24,590	7,995
08	58	Corsa Club Auto	1.4	5	Star silver	24,060	8,495
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver lightening	800	9,495
09	59	Corsa Active	1.0	3	Flame red	26,900	8,995
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Metro blue	5,990	8,995
09	59	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	7,180	8,995
10	59	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	7,750	9,495
10	10	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Black sapphire	4,925	10,495
10	10	Corsa Energy	1.2	3	Black sapphire	2,340	9,995
10	10	Corsa Energy	1.2	3	Silver lightening	2,045	8,995
10	10	Corsa Energy CDTi	1.3	3	Glacier white	2,800	10,995
10	10	Corsa Energy	1.2	5	Metro blue	2,925	9,995
10	10	Corsa SE	1.4	5	Beach green	4,740	10,995

INSIGNIA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
10	10	Insignia Exclusive CDTi	2.0	5	Star silver	6,395	15,495
10	10	Insignia Exclusive CDTi	2.0	5	Black sapphire	10,180	14,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Meriva Design X pack	1.8	5	Air blue	7,600	8,795

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	56	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Metro blue	33,180	6,695
07	57	Vectra Sri CDTi	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	58,650	7,495

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	59	Zafira Active Plus	1.8	5	Ultra blue	5,670	13,495
10	10	Zafira Energy	1.8	5	Sovereign silver	1,570	13,995
10	10	Zafira Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	5,225	17,995
10	10	Zafira Energy	1.8	5	Black sapphire	4,325	13,995
10	10	Zafira Life A/c	1.6	5	Ultra blue	4,690	12,995
10	10	Zafira Energy CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	2,390	14,995

ANTARA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Antara CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Metro blue	20,000	11,995
08	57	Antara CDTi E Auto	2.0	5	Slate blue	18,100	12,995
09	59	Antara Exclusive CDTi	2.0D	5	Placid grey	2,020	17,995

DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Corsa Design Auto	1.4	3	Black sapphire	23,000	6,495
08	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	5	Flame red	40,000	6,995
08	08	Corsa Design	1.4	5	Star silver	15,500	6,875
06	06	Meriva Design CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	28,000	5,995
07	57	Meriva Energy	1.4	5	Star silver	30,500	6,495
07	07	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Star silver	26,000	7,295
06	56	Astra Active	1.6	5	Star silver	26,800	6,295
07	57	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Metro blue	13,075	6,695
07	57	Astra Elite	1.8	5	Star silver	19,000	7,495
08	08	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Ultra blue	34,000	7,495
08	08	Astra Sri X Pack	1.8	5	Silver lightening	16,000	8,495
08	08	Astra Sxi	1.4	3	Flame red	15,000	8,995
08	58	Antara SE Auto CDTi	2.0	5	Black sapphire	35,900	15,495

COMMERCIAL

10	10	Combo CDTi	1.3	5	White	17,005	7,995
09	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	Del	£10,995+VAT

Pomphreys
London Road, Bapchild, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 9AQ

01795 476222
Email: pomphreys.vauxhall@virgin.net
Website: www.pomphreys.co.uk

NOW SERVING MEDWAY & SWALE

VAUXHALL
www.networkQ.co.uk

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Ibiza given shot of junior turbo power

IT WAS a marriage made in motoring heaven – the VW group's lively turbocharged 1.2-litre petrol engine and the Ibiza supermini produced by its sporty Spanish marque, Seat.

All three Ibiza body styles – the three-door SC, five-door and ST (estate) – are now available from £12,780 with the new 105PS (103bhp) 1.2 TSI unit with five-speed manual gearbox or VW's quite brilliant auto or manual seven-speed DSG 'box with double clutch.

The lightweight engine replaces the similar output 1.6-litre engine, while delivering better performance, a 25 per cent rise in average mpg, and a 20 per cent cut in emissions.

Meanwhile the Leon and Altea families now feature a 140PS 2.0 TDI diesel, again with a DSG option and economy and emissions benefits, starting from £18,570 (Leon) and £18,770 (Altea).

BlueMotion sporting promotion

EVEN drivers of sporting cars are in the mood to go green – or blue.

That's the message from VW after unveiling environmentally-friendlier BlueMotion Technology versions of the Scirocco and Passat CC four-door coupés.

Significantly, they also replace rather than augment conventional models in both model line-ups; VW argues the new technology combines "efficiency with comfort and refinement to create cars that deliver greater economy and fewer emissions, yet which remain conventional to drive, service and maintain".

And while early BlueMotion efforts did compromise the driving experience, we wouldn't argue now that keen drivers will feel any great loss in that area.

Scirocco BlueMotion prices start from £21,500, while the Passat CC versions start from £23,555 and features include Stop/Start – cutting the engine when the car is idle and then automatically restarting.

Corsa moving upmarket

VAUXHALL has revamped the Corsa supermini (from £9,995) to maintain the model's position within the UK top five for sales.

Externally it gains many premium looks from the Insignia, Astra and Meriva, also highlighting Vauxhall's bid to move upmarket away from a mainstream sector likely to become more cuthroat as buyers tighten their belts.

The front end has been radically revised and includes 'eagle-eye' headlamps seen on the recently launched Meriva – a runner-up in the 2011 European Car of the Year contest (see story previous page).

Vauxhall has also reached for the paint palette to add five striking – some might say lurid – new colours including Lime Green pearlescent and Chilli Orange metallic and a bright yellow called Sunny Melon… how do they think 'em up?

Vauxhall also now offers an optional 'Touch & Connect' multi-media system with touch-screen display, sat nav, sounds, MP3 link and Bluetooth phone connectivity. This all follows recent upgrades to the engine options that have made the range greener.

PROTON

YOUR PROTON. YOUR WAY.

NO NEED TO PAY THE VAT RISE.
ORDER NOW, PAY IN 2011.

Like every Proton, value for money is in the Savvy Style's DNA. And right now, with our special offer of £750 towards your finance deposit, first repayment in March 2011[1], 3 years free RAC cover, 3 years free servicing[*], and 3 years warranty[2] this is definitely more car for your money.

Air-con | Reverse Parking Sensors | Front Fog Lamps
15" Alloy Wheels | Clarion Radio/CD | Twin Airbags
ABS with EBD | Alarm | Remote Locking | Immobiliser
Power Steering **PLUS 3 Year Free Servicing**
All for an unbeatable £7,995*

3 YEAR WARRANTY | 3 YEAR RAC COVER | 3 YEAR FREE SERVICING | + WE PAY £750 OF YOUR DEPOSIT

SAVVY | STYLE 1.2 (MT)

FINANCE OPTION | On the road price **£7,995.00***
Proton Finance Deposit Allowance[1] **£750.00** Customer deposit **£1,000.00** Amount of credit **£6,245.00**
First payment (March 2011) of **£134.73** 58 monthly payments of **£134.73** Final payment of **£299.73**
Total amount payable £9,998.80
11.9% Typical APR

EXPRESS GARAGE | 01227 364 077 | **WWW.EXPRESSGARAGE.CO.UK**

Official fuel consumption figures mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km): Lowest: Savvy Style MT: urban 36.7 (7.7), extra urban 61.4 (4.6), combined 49.6 (5.7), CO_2 134; Highest: Savvy Style AMT: urban 36.7 (7.7), extra urban 62.8 (4.5), combined 49.6 (5.7) CO_2 134

[1]Price shown is for Savvy 1.2 Style MT, manufacturer's list price £7,995 excluding metallic which is an option at £365. On the road price includes VAT, delivery number plates, 12 months road fund licence and first registration fee. [1]£750 Finance deposit offer is available to people aged 18 and over, subject to status, when purchasing a new Proton vehicle through Proton Finance Ltd. Minimum 10% deposit required for 'pay later' offer upon order. Indemnities may be required. Excludes Motability and fleet sales. Available at participating dealers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Proton Finance Ltd, registered address 16 Cocklebiers Road, Barnet, EN4 0QY is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Finance Offers end 31st December 2010. [*]Free servicing offer available at participating dealers only on Savvy 1.2 Style MT or AMT until 31st December 2010. [2]Warranty is subject to maintenance in accordance with manufacturer's schedules, 3 year or 60,000 miles. Terms & conditions apply to all offers.

MS Service: Service availability dependent on UK mobile coverage. SMS car valuations cost £1.50 plus normal network charges. Service does not value imports, low-volume vehicles, cars manufactured before 1999 or those under 6 months old, motorbikes, vans or commercial vehicles.

This week's reminder – go slow in the snow

by STEVELOADER

IT NEVER ceases to amaze how some drivers regard snow as a licence to drive normally.

As a hard-bitten police instructor once told me accidents are "usually caused by a sloppy nut on the steering wheel", and never is that more obvious than when the white stuff starts flying about.

What made the fact harder to bear this week was knowing that Kent was blanketed less than a year ago – how short are some drivers' memories?

The Driving Instructors' Association's (DIA) advanced motorists arm reckons part of the problem is the popular emphasis on what to do in a skid, when matters shouldn't be getting that far in the first place.

And the DIA followed with sound safety advice for the chilliest conditions:

1) PLAN and prepare for journeys, even as early as the day before.

2) CHECK fuel, antifreeze, windscreen washer levels and tyre pressures. Pull wipers away from the windscreen/rear window to prevent the rubber freezing to the glass.

3) SET the alarm earlier to allow time to clear your car completely before your journey.

4) DON'T leave your car unattended with the engine running. It's illegal on a public highway and may invalidate your insurance if the car was then stolen.

5) CLEAR snow from the roof and bonnet to prevent it slipping during braking, obscuring your vision or flying off at higher speeds and endangering others.

6) DRIVE in a higher gear than normal; for example, third gear instead of second. This reduces the risk of the driving wheels slipping.

7) THINK ahead; it can take 10 times longer to stop in wintry conditions. Ease off the accelerator and allow the car to stop by itself, making sure any gear changes are smooth. Use brakes sparingly and gently; try to avoid braking on bends or descents and brake when you can and not when you have to.

8) PAY attention to road surfaces, particularly on bridges and flyovers where cold air passing under them often causes freezing. Be aware of sheltered areas too; these can harbour black ice.

9) ROAD markings may be less visible at junctions due to compacted snow or salt and grit.

10) PLAN rest breaks on longer journeys. Keep in touch with colleagues, friends and relatives to relay progress and intended arrival time. Be realistic about time and avoid driving at night if possible.

11) KEEP warm by taking hot drinks, blankets and warm and waterproof clothing. You may even need sunglasses due to glare from the snow or the low winter sun.

12) CONSIDER buying a shovel and set of snow chains. Shovels are cheap and chains will help you to drive in very deep snow and are usually under £100.

Visit www.driving.org/diamond/seasonaldriving/winter for more driving tips.

Heavy metal star's hybrid headline act at car auction

DEALERS and punters at the BCA car auctions in Paddock Wood were asked to bid for a rather odd celebrity car.

It was a petrol-electric 60-plate Honda CR-Z Coupé GT, a rare hybrid sports model launched just a few months ago.

But that's not the odd bit.

What was really unusual was that it was once owned by Justin Hawkins, former frontman of heavy rock band, The Darkness and a known car nut.

Even a brief ownership – the car had just 1,400 miles on the clock – of this paragon of environmental motoring and in pearl white, may come as a shock to Hawkins' fans who revere him for his heavy guitar chords, falsetto vocals, and his band's dubiously titled festive hit Christmas Time (Don't Let the Bells End).

Admittedly, the Honda had one additional feature beloved by celebrities – privacy glass – but otherwise would fall short of what might be expected of a man who performed well in Top Gear's notorious celebrity lap 'in a reasonably-priced car', which was specially decked out for the occasion with heavy metal flames.

Now fronting a new band called Hot Leg, he has owned powerful motors including a Jaguar XK8 – a V8 monster that made headlines after the rocker emerged from his house to find it resting on bricks after the theft of the large and expensive alloy wheels.

The rather less raunchy Honda would have cost him around £20,000 if bought through a dealer and sold at BCA's auction for £18,500.

BCA declined to name the buyer. I think we can be sure it wasn't another rock star though.

LOOKALIKE: Replica of Hawkins' Honda CR-Z

CLEAR NISSAN

We're driving down the cost of owning a new Nissan

SIMPLE, CLEAR, AFFORDABLE

PIXO 1.0 n-tec
FROM £5,945

- CD Player with MP3 reader
- Air conditioning
- Front fog lamps
- 4 Airbags (front & side)
- Front electric windows
- Deposit £395
- 36 payments of £96.59
- GMFV/final payment of £3220
- APR (typical) 11.1%

FREE UPGRADE from Visia to n-tec

SAVE £2,780

Book a test drive today
Baileys Canterbury
Westminster Road, Canterbury CT1 1YY
Tel: 0844 854 8848
www.baileysnissan.co.uk
Opening hours 9.00-5.30 Monday to Friday, 9.00-5.30 Saturday and 10.00-4.00 Sunday

NISSAN
SHIFT_the way you move

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km) PIXO 1.0 n-tec 5 DOOR: Urban - 42.2 (6.7), Extra Urban - 62.8 (4.5), Combined - 54.3 (5.2), CO2 emissions 122 g/km.

Amazing savings on pre-reg Vauxhall models!

Plus save up to £1000 with WJ King Swappage!^

VAUXHALL LIFETIME WARRANTY

All cars come with Vauxhall Lifetime warranty. Most cars are with metallic paint, delivery mileage only!

60 Plate Agila Club 1.2i 16v 5dr A/C
From only £8495
RRP £11295 SAVE £2800

60 Plate Corsa Capital 1.0i 12v 3dr S/E
From only £9495
RRP £12755 SAVE £3260

60 Plate Corsa Capital 1.2i 16v 5dr S/E
From only £10295
RRP £13080 SAVE £2785

60 Plate Corsa SXi 1.2i 16v 3dr A/C
From only £11995
RRP £14305 SAVE £2310

60 Plate Astra Exclusive 1.4i 16v 87PS 5dr
From only £12995
RRP £16425 SAVE £3430

60 Plate Meriva Exclusive 1.4i 16v VVT 5dr
From only £14995
RRP £17800 SAVE £2805

60 Plate Zafira Energy 1.8i 16v 5dr
From only £15995
RRP £20570 SAVE £4575

60 Plate Insignia Exclusive 1.8i 16v 5dr
From only £14995
RRP £19795 SAVE £4800

60 Plate AstraVan Sportive SE 1.9 CDTi
From only £12495 +VAT
RRP £17492 +VAT SAVE £4997 +VAT

Stock units only, hurry, limited period only!

† Typical finance example for Vauxhall Agila as advertised. *Including Credit Facility Fee and Completion Fee.

CASH PRICE	DEPOSIT	AMOUNT FINANCED	FIRST PAYMENT	58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	1 FINAL PAYMENT	INTEREST CHARGES	TOTAL CHARGE FOR CREDIT*	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	9.9% TYPICAL APR†
£8495	£850	£7645	£158.85	£158.85	£277.85	£1686.50	£2004.50	£10499.50	

BEAT THE VAT INCREASE!

HURRY!

Buy now and beat the VAT increase!

WJ King
www.wjking.co.uk

Welling	020 8303 1234	Swanley	01322 662890	Rochester	01634 723723
Bexleyheath	020 8303 2299	Woolwich	020 8854 8161	Gravesend	01474 565656
Farningham	01322 862366	Dartford	01322 227581	Bromley	020 8464 3456

VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 16.5 (17.1) – 61.4 (4.6), Extra-urban: 32.8 (8.6) – 88.3 (3.2), Combined: 24.2 (11.7) – 76.3 (3.7). CO2 emissions: 274 – 98g/km.

Offers are based on selected vehicles. *The Vauxhall Swappage Scheme applies to customers trading in a qualifying car or commercial vehicle (up to 3.5 tonnes) against the purchase of a selected pre-reg Vauxhall model. At the date of registration the vehicle traded in must have been 7 years old or older from date of first registration in the UK. To qualify for the scheme, the owner of the traded vehicle for their spouse/partner living at the same UK address) must be named as the registered keeper and resident at the UK address shown on the Vehicle Registration Document (V5C) and have owned the vehicle for a minimum of 90 days. The new vehicle must be registered at the same address. The vehicle must have a valid MOT and road tax for that has expired no earlier than 14 days prior to the new vehicle order date) and be insured at the date of the new vehicle order. The Vauxhall Swappage Scheme cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. All Swappage discounts are inclusive of VAT. For full details on Lifetime Warranty, visit www.vauxhall.co.uk, terms and conditions apply. †Finance supplied by Barclays Partner Finance, PO Box 3909 Glasgow G58 1YL, subject to status, over 18s only, a guarantor may be required, written quotations available on request. Savings shown are against MRRP at time of publication. Prices shown are available on selected WJ King stock vehicles only whilst stocks last and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers apply to selected vehicles, orders from 1st November 2010 to 31st December 2010, invoiced and paid before 3rd January 2011. Please note, models pictured are for illustration purposes only and may not represent actual model. A £99 inc VAT admin fee, security checks and fuel will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. WJ King reserves the right to withdraw any offer at any time. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. E&OE.

Click online for a new car

Search and find 1000s of Kent cars online

Check out the prices of new and used car valuations

Search for your local car dealer

Find the latest car reviews and test drives on new cars

Get a car loan quote and calculate your repayments

Use **www.CarsforKent.co.uk** where you can search through **1,000s of cars for sale** across the county.

Online you can view full car details, location map and seller's details, plus road tests and a finance calculator to work out monthly payments.

CarsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find your next car

POWERED BY KOS MEDIA

Bigger, better and still as Swift

DrivingReview

by STEVE LOADER
CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Suzuki Swift

IT IS no exaggeration to say that the previous Swift changed Suzuki's image as a carmaker.

Before that, UK buyers in particular regarded the Japanese marque's supermini as Swift by name, naff by nature and Suzuki itself as a producer of motorbikes and affordable, highly competent proper 4x4s.

There was a 'Swift' change to that perception in 2005; it was as if someone at Suzuki had said "the supermini game is where it's at and we're not in it yet".

The new Swift could cut a dash with its BMW Mini-style high waist and wraparound screen and had a bit of dash in the driving department too. Even in basic format, it now deserved the Swift name.

Five years on and it's more of the same – thank goodness. This time our anonymous spokesman at Suzuki said "don't fix it if it ain't broke".

So despite changing every exterior panel and taking the interior upmarket, the new Swift looks like its predecessor yet still stands apart from the opposition and offers incredible value.

Priced from a psychologically attractive £9,995, it is expected to account for nearly 40 per cent of all UK Suzuki car sales.

The newcomer continues in both three and five-door guises and is actually slightly bigger all round; probably the right thing to do, now that Suzuki has also uprated its Alto baby car model.

And there are lots more grown-up fixtures about the latest Swift, launched in September, including: electronic stability control as standard to aid and abet the car's point and shoot driveability; seven airbags – your kids will be safer in this little car; a lighter and stiffer body despite a rise in size; and more room in the back.

For now, there is just the one engine, but it's an impressive all-rounder 1.2-litre petrol unit. With 94PS/93bhp on tap it is one of the most powerful in the supermini sector, but allied to a five-speed gearbox with a spread of ratios able to deliver both low-down liveliness and economical cruising – an auto is also available.

A Fiat 1.3-litre diesel option arrives next

Christmas has come early at Caffyns Chevrolet

Prancer on down and let us Blitzen you with our deals, it'll be Rudolph not to

BRAND NEW AVEO 1.2LS 5DR

RRP £10445

SAVE £3450

Aveo 1.2LS 5dr
Customer deposit £0.00
58 monthly payments of £139.84
On the road RRP £6995.00
Amount of credit £6995.00
First monthly payment* £288.84
Final monthly payment** £288.84
Total charge for credit £1693.40
Total amount payable £8688.40
9.3% APR Typical

*A £10 option fee and a £139 arrangement fee are payable with the first monthly payment.
** A final credit arrangement fee of £149 is payable with the final monthly payment.

Donner miss out. Jingle all the way in a brand new Chevrolet

Call now for a test drive and reduce your motoring costs today • Any make Part Exchange

CHEVROLET

CAFFYNS TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Lamberts Road North Farm Industrial Estate, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3EL
08433 160 842
www.chevroletlocal.co.uk/caffyns/tunbridgewells

Motability

Financed by GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff CF15 7YT. Offer is subject to status, availability and terms and conditions. Applicants must be aged 18 or over. Offers are available for registrations and orders placed between 09/07/10 and 30/11/10 and are subject to availability. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks and may not be used in conjunction with any other offer, UK supplied vehicles only. Available at participating Retailers only. Not in conjunction with any other offer.
Prices correct at time of press. Licenced credit brokers. Finance is subject to status, written details available on request. Vehicles shown for illustration purposes only.

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2LS 5dr: Urban 39.2 (7.2), Extra Urban 61.4 (4.6), Combined 51.4 (5.5), CO2 Emissions 119 g/km.

0224

spring, but it is bound to be more expensive and, as ever, I question whether most buyers will claw back that extra outlay through the oil-burner's better consumption, especially when the 1.2 petrol can average in the mid-50s for mpg and low emissions attract just £30 a year in road tax.

The diesel will average at least 10mpg better, but the road tax will be the same and then there is extra engine weight, a travesty in a car that feels so light on its feet and certainly the best supermini drive at this price.

Exemplary steering and handling in the old car has been enhanced by a wider track and bigger wheels and I look forward to the promise of a big engine Sport model to come.

Where Suzuki did need to do some work was in the cabin, now dramatically enhanced with far better materials and more comfortable seats; it's not the best, but the best at this price.

I can foresee one gripe from would-be buyers though – the boot remains small and has a high lip, but it would be a piffling reason to reject a fine car.

And while it was lovely to run around in our flagship SX4 test car (from £11,795) with toys including cruise, sporty start button, Bluetooth, rear privacy glass and auto headlamps, its prospective buyers will probably look to the Mini brochure.

The real attraction is the middle of the Swift range where SZ3 spec gets you air con and alloys from just £10,995 – a bargain.

DrivingPortfolio

SUZUKI SWIFT SZ4 1.2 3-DR £11,795

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★★
Image	★★★
Space	★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★★★
Road tax	£30/year (zero in year one)
Best rival	Ford Fiesta

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the small and awkward boot, but it musn't be a deal breaker.

NOT SURE: Suzuki car brand is yet chic enough or that this bigger Swift has enough space.

REALLY LIKE: the total ownership package, delivering fun and low running costs.

KENT DEALERS

TUNBRIDGE WELLS SUZUKI
Tunbridge Wells 01892 520026
WJ KING
Bromley 0208 464 3456
Welling 0208 303 1234
JCB
Ashford 01233 502900

Search online for your new car today
www.carsforkent.co.uk

*VAT reduction (based on the VAT rate applicable at 25th May 2010) available on all Fabia models except for vRS and on all Octavia and all Roomster models. Prices & offers correct at time of going to press. We reserve the right to amend or withdraw offers without prior notice. This advert supercedes any previously advertised offers. Pictures for illustration purposes only. **Official fuel consumption in mpg for the Skoda range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) - 53.3 (5.3), Extra Urban 36.2 (7.8) - 83.1 (3.4), Combined 27.7 (10.2) - 68.9 (4.1). CO2 emissions (g/km) Skoda range: 109-237.**

ALFA ROMEO

156, 1.6 T.spark Turismo Sportwagon (6 months Warranty), ag02lxu, twin air bags, side air bags, curtain airbags, abs, power steering, stability control, air conditioning, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, immobiliser, colour coded body, cd player, stereo, steering wheel audio controls, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, alcantara leather, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, lumbar support, alloy wheels, *** full pre-delivery inspection, full safety check, free 6 months fully comprehensive warranty, 12 months mot, structured service & warranty packages to suit your individual needs, free 7 days fully comprehensive insurance, professional after sales care, p/x welcome, finance available (subject to status) ***, aluminium silver, 63000 miles, £2995, Maidstone, 01622 842299 (TRADE)

159, 3.2 V6 JTS Q4 LUSSO, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player climate control electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black, 30376 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 70000 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 3.2 V6 JTS Q4 LUSSO, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black, 30376 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 70000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDM SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDM SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDM SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

AUDI

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player climate control electric windows front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix adjustable steering column rear armrest rear headrests heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, black, 41771 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player climate control electric windowsfront adjustable steering column rear armrest rear headrests heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, black, 41771 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player climate control electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering tinted glass trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column rear armrest rear headrests heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, black, 41771 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, T QUATTRO SE, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking cruise control electric windows front fog lights metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering remote central locking roof bars adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, green, 53312 miles, £7300, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, FSI SE, 2005, black metallic, 41000 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 TDi S LINE MULTITRONIC, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking diesel electric windows front fog lights power steering split folding rear seats sports seats traction control trip computer twin airbags remote front armrest body coloured bumpers lumbar support rear armrest rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, black, 24363 miles, £18500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9 TDi SE Multitronic, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column front armrest lumbar support 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, grey, 53000 miles, £8500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 TDi S LINE MULTITRONIC, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking diesel electric windows front fog lights remote audio controls adjustable steering column front armrest body coloured bumpers rear armrest rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts space saver spare wheel, black, 24363 miles, £18500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 120i M Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black sapphire, 11929 miles, £23000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120d SE Steptronic Auto, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 36000 miles, £13500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120i M Sport, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, sparkling graphite, 8156 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, sparkling graphite, 8156 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, monaco blue, 26428 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 3.0 330 Ci SPORT, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, silver, 84102 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116 ES, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, red- metallic, 22000 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i M Sport, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, le mans blue, 19511 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120i M Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering sports seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black sapphire, 11929 miles, £23000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120i M Sport, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player drivers airbag electric windows remote central locking body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, sparkling graphite, 8156 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, monaco blue, 26428 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C2, CODE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser power fold mirrors leather interior power steering split folding rear seats curtain airbags remote central locking auto headlights and wipers remote audio controls rear headrests height adj drivers seat, black, 29000 miles, £5000, Tunbridge Wells, 08448 759297 (TRADE)

C2, VTS, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering single cd player split folding rear seats, black, 30000 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, red, 50 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, SX, 2004, air conditioning central locking drivers airbag immobiliser multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, silver, 30000 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, Vibe, 2008, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, silver, 10371 miles, £4600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 16v, 2008, alarm fitted central locking drivers airbag, gold, 55 miles, £12500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, red, 50 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6 HDI VTS, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering front height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, black, 5000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 16v, 2008, blue, 50 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE

C2, Stop Start Sensodrive, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking isofix child seat points, oriental blue, 11915 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, gold, 55 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6 VTS, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls body coloured bumpers, poseidon blue, 38157 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 16v, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows, gold, 55 miles, £12980, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, Cachet, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 14000 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.1 RHYTHM, 2008, cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking, tbc, 18995 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 16v, 2008, alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows, gold, 50 miles, £10500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.1 Design, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers space saver spare wheel, silver, 44762 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, CODE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights leather interior remote central locking auto headlights and wipers remote audio controls rear headrests height adj drivers seat, black, 29000 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 16v, 2008, silver, 55 miles, £12980, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.1 i VTR, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, silver, 13 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIAT

BRAVO, Multijet Dynamic Eco, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 8000 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 55 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.4 TJet 150 Active, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue, 23670 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 2.0 MULTIJET 165 SPORT, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats sports seats tonneau cover trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking remote audio controls, white, 1500 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.4 (120ps) Tjet Dynamic, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player climate control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multiple airbags sports seats trip computer curtain airbags isofix child seat points remote audio controls adaptive cruise control with emergency brake assist, red, 17647 miles, £7500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.4 TJet 150 Active, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 23562 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, MULTIJET SPORT, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows metallic paint leather interior power steering reverse parking aid tinted glass remote central locking, black, 3200 miles, £17000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, DYNAMIC T-JET, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking power steering, blue, 15185 miles, £6700, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9 Multijet Active, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, silver, 29500 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.4, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Multijet Active, 2008, black metallic, 25000 miles, £7700, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Dynamic, 2010, abs brakes bluetooth car kit cd player climate control electric windows power steering, blue, 3085 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Active, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels diesel electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, blue, 36743 miles, £5800, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, SX, 1996, central locking electric windows immobiliser, white, 85000 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, black, 55 miles, £13980, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, ACTIVE, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering, digital grey, 18850 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FORD

FOCUS, Style TDCI 110 PS, 2009, abs brakes diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering single cd player remote central locking, blue, 34373 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser sports seats trip computer isofix child seat points remote audio controls, non standard colour, 41749 miles, £7500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, ZETEC TDCi 1.6 5DR, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, moondust silver, 3000 miles, £13480, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec Climate, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint single cd player, tango red, 9618 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Style, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning multiple airbags remote audio controls, grey, 45971 miles, £8500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, LX, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player multiple airbagssports seats trip computer remote audio controls, grey metallic, 15000 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, LX, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue metallic, 59000 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, ZETEC TDCi 1.6 5DR, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint curtain airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, sea grey, 34092 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls electric sunroof adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, blue, 6000 miles, £9500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Style, 2007, sea grey, 23552 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec Climate, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, tonic blue, 20139 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, NEW ZETEC 1.6 5DR, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, vision blue, 36604 miles, £8580, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, NEW STYLE 1.6 5DR, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, morello, 35524 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, NEW FOCUS ZETEC 1.6 5DR, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, tango red, 37400 miles, £8580, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MINI

COOPER, Hatchback, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint power steering tinted glass trip computer panoramic sunroof remote central locking adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, british racing green, 43036 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

COOPER, S, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering trip computer, red, 31000 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

COOPER, 1.6 S, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint remote central locking, hyper blue, 34443 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

COOPER, S, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering single cd player sports seats traction control trip computer isofix child seat points, silver, 17125 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

COOPER, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 28250 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

COOPER, 1.6, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, red metallic, 21732 miles, £8500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

COOPER, 2005, non standard colour, 52948 miles, £12723, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

COOPER S, 1.6 convertible, 2005, blue metallic with black half leather sport seats, 46000 miles, £7985, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

COOPER S, Mini Cooper S Convertible full leather trim, af06dwo, air conditioning, full leather, xenon headlamps, 17'' alloys, full black leather, chili red, 48000 miles, £9995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

COOPER S, Mini Cooper S 3dr, jc03mog, twin air bags, abs, traction control, power steering, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, half leather, electric mirrors, electric windows, remote central locking, stereo, metallic paintwork, front fog lamps, rear headrests, alloy wheels, full pre-delivery inspection. full safety check, free 6 months fully comprehensive warranty, 12 months mot, grey, 88000 miles, £5695, Maidstone, 01622 842299 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

307, S, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 6000 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

307, 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer deactivation switch remote central locking auto headlights and wipers remote audio controls, silver, 47000 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

307, 1.6 HDI S 90ps, 2006, air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags remote central locking, red, 67658 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

B & D Specialist Cars
RANGE ROAD IND EST HYTHE
SAAB OUR SPECIALITY

2006 56 Reg SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Vector Sport, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 114,000 miles, Metallic grey, Cruise control, Full Electric Pack, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, ABS, Sports seats, Reverse parking aid, Anti theft system, Child locks, Leather seat trim, Service indicator, Navigation system, Multi function steering wheel, Space saver spare wheel, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Air conditioning, CD, Climate Control, Full Service History. Fully intergrated Navigation system, Mobile phone Bluetooth connection. Buisness Pack. 6 Speed gearbox ..... **NOW £6,695**

2003 53 Reg SAAB 9-3 2.0T Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 121,170 miles, Metallic Black. Sat Nav, Bluetooth Handsfree Leather seat trim, Radio/CD, Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Full Electric Pack, Remote central locking, Trip computer, Alarm, Headlight washers, Body coloured bumpers, Rear armrest, PAS, Air conditioning, Anti theft system, Climate Control, Full Service History, Sports seats, Tinted glass. ..... **NOW £3,995**

2001 Y Reg SAAB 9-5 2.0T SE, 102,941 miles, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol. Metallic Grey, 4 Owners. Heated door mirrors, ABS, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Leather upholstery, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Trip computer, Leather seat trim, Air conditioning, Radio/Cassette, Traction control, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Climate Control, Service indicator, Electric mirrors, Remote locking., ... **NOW £2,495**

2000 W Reg SAAB 9-3 2.0T, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 70,471 miles, Metallic RED, 2 Owners. Central locking, Folding rear seats, Trip computer, Passenger airbag, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cloth upholstery, Part Service History, Child locks, CD, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Headlight washers, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Radio/Cassette, Air conditioning, Service indicator. ..... **NOW £2,295**

R Reg SAAB 9-3 2.0i, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 1998, 66,678 miles, Black, 1 Owner. Rear wiper, Trip computer, Cloth upholstery, Immobiliser, Part Service History, Remote locking, Service indicator, Electric door mirrors, ABS, Adjustable seats, Adjustable steering column, Alloy wheels, Air conditioning, Alloy wheels, Anti theft system, CD, Central locking, Electric mirrors, Electric windows, Foglights, Head restraints, Headlight washers, Heated seats, Metallic paintwork, Passenger airbag, Power assisted steering, Rear armrest, Side airbags, Steel wheels, Sunroof, Tinted glass, Wheel trims... **NOW £1,595**

SOLD

WITH TRAINED SAAB SPECIALIST STAFF
WE ARE YOUR ONLY CHOICE

NOW WITH FULL MOT &
1 YEARS BREAKDOWN WARRANTY
www.banddspecialistcars.co.uk
01303 264700

Do you want to sell your car?

HOBBS·PARKER Car Auctions LLP

WE SELL OVER 5000 CARS A YEAR!

We hold two auctions each week selling cars from £100 to £20,000. We will give you an accurate, free valuation. If you are happy with our valuation, you can enter your car into the auction, and when sold we will pay you within 48 hours.

Sales every monday & wednesday at 6.30pm
No more costly adverts!
Hundreds of buyers every week!
No more timewasters!
It`s really quick and easy, exciting too!
Everybody`s doing it!
All major credit cards accepted!
Open to the trade and the public!
"The simple way to buy or sell."

Commercial Vehicle Auctions
Thursday 2nd December 3.00pm
& Thursday 16th December 3.00pm
Then Fortnightly on Thursdays at 3.00pm
Approx 50 light vans and pick ups
A well attended and popular fortnightly sale
A selection of entries from Local Authorities, Local Companies, Main Dealerships & Others

Entries Invited

Hobbs Parker Car Auctions LLP, Orbital Park, Ashford. TN24 0HB
www.hobbsparker.co.uk/cars 01233 506266

BMW 320 TD ES COMPACT
Reg Jan 2004
3-door, 1995cc diesel, ISS chip, 6 gears.
BMW service history.
MoT March 2011.
Tax July 2011.
£4,500
Tel: 07882 605378

KOSmedia
BUSINESS WEEK
online: www.businessforkent.co.uk
Your business is our business

INSIDE THIS WEEK

WE'RE celebrating the start of the panto season this week with a Big Interview featuring Kent-based producer, writer and director Paul Hendy who tells us business is booming.

Let's hope some of that panto magic rubs off on the Kent economy for 2011. We'll need it, judging by the mixed messages reported elsewhere on this page – though the message is broadly positive.

STEVE LOADER BUSINESS EDITOR
TELEPHONE: 01303 817029
EMAIL: steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

KEY PARTNERS

Kent Office Solutions
south east business INNOVATION & GROWTH
BCS Business Computer Solutions
belmont INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKERS
Kent Business School
NatWest
Whitehead Monckton

SUPPORTED BY

FSB

Mixed messages add to cautious outlook

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

CONTRADICTION: More than 40 per cent of firms say they will interview for new staff next year, but another source says confidence has fallen

BUSINESS confidence in Kent and the South East has suffered a major setback, according to the influential UK Business Confidence Monitor.

Firms report concern for a tough year ahead and the confidence factor for the 2010 final quarter stands at +2.3, against the +9.7 achieved last quarter.

Though it has not slumped into a negative rating, the picture painted by the BCM – produced by accountants' mouthpiece, the ICAEW, and Grant Thornton – also underlines the mixed messages that county businesses are contending with.

This week they also heard a confidence booster: their peers in smaller companies across the county and the South East were still keen to hire new staff. According to office and workspace agency Regus, 41 per cent want to increase their headcount in 2011 against 38 per cent nationally.

And this is despite 79 per cent also believing that the interests of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) were overlooked by government, a factor also undoubtedly contributing to 29 per cent of respondents saying their stress levels have soared in the past two years.

Regional spokesman for Regus, Celia Donne, said: "Entrepreneurial businesses show strong signs that the sector is getting ready to grasp the full momentum of the recovery by investing in staff rather than cutting personnel.

"SMEs are choosing to increase flexibility of location and reducing fixed office space rather than reduce staff in order to attract and reward top staff, such as returning mothers who will benefit from a better work/life balance."

There was positive research, too, from Clydesdale Bank, showing 76 per cent of businesses in the South East believing Britain is a good place to start a new business, with 63 per cent saying the UK economy offers good prospects for both business investment and long-term growth – 80 per cent see the UK as a business-friendly country. Clydesdale's regional director, Will Lindsay, said: "Many businesses are looking to their future prospects with a growing degree of confidence. Although there will continue to be economic challenges ahead, there will also be opportunities for strong businesses which will enable them to grow."

There was also a guardedly upbeat message to Kent businesses this week from the Bank of England (see story below).

But the ICAEW's view failed to live up to its 'Inspiring Confidence' motto, with regional director Fay Webster saying: "The steady decline in confidence over recent quarters reflects ongoing uncertainty about the economy in the region over the next 12 months. Companies in the South East are understandably cautious to invest going forward, both in the business itself and staff. These are both crucial factors in helping growth and creating a strong recovery.

"Due to this, the year ahead looks uncomfortable for many, especially when the public sector spending cuts begin to take effect."

However, Grant Thornton partner Ellen Walsh injected some reasons to be cheerful: "Businesses are still projecting growth, albeit lower than we have experienced in the past.

"Interest rates are expected to remain low for longer, exports are growing and if businesses are able to scrutinise and adapt their business models to reflect the market, they have every opportunity to grow in 2011," she said.

Dale foresees headwinds, but not ice

BANK of England Governor Mervyn King's right-hand man planned to tell Kent business people about headwinds that could affect a bright economic outlook. But Spencer Dale's speech to a 21st birthday dinner for Kent Business School at the University of Kent at Canterbury was put on ice after this week's snowfall across Kent.

HEADWINDS: Spencer Dale

Nevertheless, the Bank has been active in trying to update the business community and the substance of his proposed speech was released after Wednesday's event was postponed.

The Bank's executive director and chief economist said the pace of the UK recovery to date compared favourably with previous episodes and the composition of growth was encouraging. The pick-up in private sector spending had helped offset a weaker net trade performance but he said it was "too soon to say we are out of the woods," adding: "Economic recovery has to be judged in terms of the level of output, not the rate at which it is growing – one year of growth does not make a recovery."

He went on to identify two headwinds hampering growth, the most obvious being public sector spending, as a share of GDP, being projected to fall by around eight percentage points over the next five years.

But he was confident that this would not derail the recovery, though business and household confidence and behaviour could go either way.

The second headwind was that UK banks were still unable to lend normally, affecting smaller firms particularly. But Mr Dale said banks had strengthened their capital and funding positions and he hoped the banking system would soon exert less drag on the economy.

And there were helpful tailwinds, the strongest being positive Government policies and then sterling's substantial depreciation, which should rebalance the economy towards exports.

"The increased competitiveness of our goods exports has succeeded in arresting the persistent decline in our share of world export markets seen over the past 15 years or so," said Mr Dale.

"In contrast, exports of services have fallen, possibly reflecting reduced global demand for financial and business services in the current environment."

This made forecasting difficult, but he remained confident the UK economy "would grow at rates around or a little above its historical average".

And he also stoutly rebuffed accusations that the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) "had gone soft on inflation".

Recent inflation had been driven by temporary price level shocks, he said, and "the MPC remains as hard-nosed as ever in its determination to hit the inflation target".

Comment

AS WE try to rebuild a shattered economy by recalling the distant heyday of manufacturing that made Britain great, it's a worry that we can't remember a harsh lesson of just a few months ago.

But is anyone surprised to be halted once more and facing more financial carnage for Kent business, just as economic growth starts to gather pace?

To be fair, the authorities seem to have been caught napping even in the far north and in Scotland and Wales, where extreme winters are more common.

So even if Kent and the South East generally were to gear up to battling big freezes on a more regular basis, we could never be sure to conquer them entirely.

Anyway, where would the cash come from for the heavy-duty machinery? And could you justify the expense of it standing idle for the most of the year?

So, at the risk of sounding like I bought into David Cameron's rather woolly Big Society theory, how about Kent businesses and councils forming an alliance in both their interests to keep the roads and railways open through pooling their Tonka Toys – a system that works in parts of the USA?

Farmers already get some local authority cash for helping out and it would be cheaper for councils to set aside dwindling funds to pay companies to adapt vehicles they already own, rather than to invest in new equipment themselves – especially at a time when the public sector is cutting manpower, too.

Companies and their staff also need to embrace two key transport issues: that winter and all-season car tyres are now a practical and more affordable proposition and that IT has advanced to the point where being stranded shouldn't stop office workers working remotely – providing employers recognise this can be just as productive, and far safer, than them often wasting hours by labouring in on chaotic roads or rail systems.

BUSINESS EDITOR STEVE LOADER

Champion the role of marketing

MARKETING expert Ian Lockyer has taken on the voluntary role of Small Business Champion for the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM) for Kent and the South East.

It forms part of a drive by the CIM to help the small business community and draws on Mr Lockyer's experience as chairman of the institute's Kent branch for the past three years and as marketing manager for Herne Bay-based radio communications firm Icom UK.

He said: "From my experience with the Kent branch of CIM, I recognised the perception of marketing by small businesses was incredibly poor and that marketers were often looked upon with suspicion and perceived as a cost rather than a force for business development.

"I intend to produce a framework for each [local CIM] branch so they can establish and co-ordinate their own workshops, seminars, training, etc, to help small business in our region.

IAN LOCKYER

"I also intend to develop central relationships with business organisations throughout the region."

The South East region of the CIM is one of the most diverse in the UK and stretches in an arc around London, from Thanet to the New Forest in the south and up to Aylesbury Vale and Milton Keynes. Kent is one of five branches within that region.

Mr Lockyer said: "I'm convinced that in tough times marketing is the development driver that can really help business of all sizes and that the CIM can take the lead. I am looking for organisations that share these goals."

Mr Lockyer can be contacted at info@easimarketing.com.

Gender quotas not on IoD top talent agenda

NEW frameworks to nurture female talent for top jobs in business are needed rather than a move towards gender quotas, ***writes Steve Loader***.

That was the call by the Institute of Directors (IoD), responding to the Government's recent consultation Women On Boards: Call For Evidence, designed to promote more female participation at boardroom level.

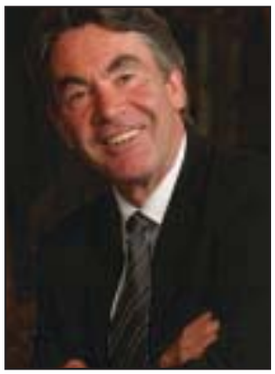
Gender quotas have been a popular suggestion, but the IoD argues that the key criteria for appointment to a board should always be the merit of the individual, and their likely contribution to the achievement of the organisation's objectives.

It believes quotas would actually be demeaning for aspiring and existing female directors and, far from increasing the legitimacy of boards, could undermine the credibility of female directors by suggesting they had been appointed to meet regulations.

The IoD also opposes voluntary quotas, because these could suggest that a company was poorly-run if it did not achieve the target.

The IoD would rather see Government and business promoting more informal mentoring, nurturing and networking of female talent.

Miles Templeman, the IoD's director general and chairman of Faversham-based brewer Shepherd Neame, said: "There are no shortcuts to greater gender diversity in the boardroom. As in other areas of corporate governance, the Government should focus on long-term solutions rather than measures – such as board quotas or targets – that merely mask the symptoms of the problem.



MILES TEMPLEMAN

"Efforts to improve female participation in boardrooms should be aimed at the source of the problem – a low female presence in executive management – and should not constrain the abilities of boards and shareholders to make director appointments on the basis of merit and the needs of their organisation."

To view this clip, log on @ www.businessforkent.co.uk

All the latest news and views from around the county, with Steve Loader and Julie Maddocks of the Business Week team

ST JOHN John Ambulance has urged Kent businesses to ensure they have trained first aiders on hand over the festive season.

The charity says 79 per cent of firms have periods where there are no trained first aiders present, and this usually increases when staff take annual leave. St John training manager Ralph Brown said: "First aiders could be the most missed employees of all if something goes wrong over Christmas. Businesses can overlook this during the festive season."

He said all workplaces must comply with Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981, requiring employers to have adequate and appropriate equipment, facilities and staff in place to enable first aid to be given at work. For more information, call 08700 104950 or go to www.sja.org.uk.

Need to work 24/7, but your IT support doesn't?

Our Kent based engineers provide more than just 9-5.

BCS Business Computer Solutions

Call free on 0800 281965 or visit www.bcs-online.co.uk

Satis House, 11 Elms Avenue, Ramsgate, Kent. CT11 9BW (Reg No 3211482)

THE CHEQUERS

DEAL

The perfect smaller venue for conferences, seminars and private business meetings, with facilities for audio visual presentations, ample car parking, and a selection of high quality menus to suit your requirements.

The best location between Deal and Sandwich... find us on the Ancient Highway.

www.chequersdeal.co.uk

THE CHEQUERS AT DEAL • 01304 362288

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

MORE than one in five UK banking customers have had a problem with their bank in the last year and 12 per cent said they definitely will or probably will switch banks in the next year, according to JD Power.

A survey by the consumer watchdog showed the three biggest complaints were about fees, service charges and rates (30 per cent), poor customer service (20 per cent), and transaction execution and confirmation (16 per cent).

Against a satisfaction scale of 1,000, First Direct topped the chart with an overall customer satisfaction of 766, followed by Co-operative Bank which scored 759. The average was a mere 683 and Santander came bottom with 646.

JD Power believes they need to shape up fast. It predicted big changes in the sector and UK banks had to evolve and match the demands of savvier consumers or risk losing them to the top performers and new competitors entering the market.

PRE-NUPTIAL agreements was the hot topic tackled by a seminar staged for 50 local lawyers by Kent law firm Cripps Harries Hall LLP at its Tunbridge Wells office.

Guest speakers and London-based barristers Anthony Geadah and Patrick Chamberlayne QC, provided an informative and entertaining talk on a subject claiming much media attention after high-profile cases.

Cripps partner Kirstie Law said 'pre-nups' were becoming more common and not just for the well-off. She added: "It was very useful for us as lawyers to hear the thoughts and experiences of two top barristers. Rather than charge for the seminar we asked guests to make a donation to Cripps Harries Hall's charity of the year, Help for Heroes."

CHARTERED accountant Beatrice Veerasingham, whose career has included directorships with international entertainment and media giants, is the latest recruit to EMC Management Consultants' 'mobile boardroom'.

The boardroom team aim to help small to medium-size firms with financial and strategic planning issues – EMC is an independent provider of corporate finance, interim management and operational support across the region and has an office in Maidstone. Beatrice, who lives in Paddock Wood, has held senior positions with Viacom, NBC Universal and United International Pictures.

DOVER Cruise Terminal has celebrated the end of another year, with a record 167 cruise calls and 300,000 passengers welcomed.

Highlights this year included first-time visits from Disney Magic which sailed from Dover on its five northern European capital cruises, HAL's Maasdam, AIDA Blu, and the MV Empress from Pullmantur, while regular operators Fred. Olsen and Saga continued to utilise Dover as a preferred start and finish point.

Dover, the UK's second busiest cruise port, is also getting good consumer feedback. Ninety-nine per cent of passengers were more than satisfied with the cruise terminal facilities and secure quayside parking.

The port expects more business as the UK cruise market enjoys unprecedented growth, despite sluggish trading across the tourism industry generally. Cruising grew by 3.8 per cent in 2009 to 1.53 million customers and estimates for this year show growth to 1.65m – more than 10 per cent of the UK package holiday market.

Dover cruise port marketing head Kate O'Hara said: "2010 proved to be a vintage year for Dover, but this is no time to take our eye off the ball."

A clean break with an unhygienic past

A MULTI-million-pound hygiene scheme looking to shame food outlets into raising standards has been launched, ***writes Marijke Cox.***

Kent is one of the first areas of the country to introduce the national initiative, which will see restaurants and takeaways rated by councils and the results displayed to customers when they are choosing where to eat.

Dartford Borough Council teamed up with shopping centre Bluewater on Tuesday to launch the £2.5 million Food Hygiene Rating Scheme, led by the Food Standards Agency (FSA), which aims to cut the one million cases of food poisoning a year.

Council leader Cllr Jeremy Kite said both the public and restaurants would benefit from the scheme: "The public will be able to use the ratings as a guide when deciding which outlets to visit and we hope food companies will recognise that displaying a good hygiene rating is good for business," he said.

"When customers expect to see a good rating there is a real incentive for food businesses to seek to make improvements to their hygiene standards."

The initiative involves outlets being inspected by food safety officers from council environmental health departments which are then rated on a scale ranging from zero – where there is a need for urgent improvement – to the top rating of five.

Ratings are available on the FSA website and outlets are given stickers and a certificate to display. But while the scheme has won praise from some councils, others across the UK have chosen not to join – despite early predictions that hundreds would sign up by next year. Figures revealed that only a small number of local authorities have looked into using the system.

A spokesman from food hygiene scheme Scores On The Doors, which is similar to the new initiative, said councils did not want to spend money when cheaper hygiene programmes already existed.

But Jeff Rooker, chairman of the FSA, said the new scheme gives customers the ability to be a judge themselves on whether they consider hygiene standards of a food outlet to be good enough.

He added: "If customers are looking for a hygiene rating, this will drive businesses to improve standards. Many people suffer from food poisoning every year, but we shouldn't feel we are gambling with our health when we eat out."

Other Kent district councils are being invited to join.Ratings of food outlets will be available to view on the FSA website at www.food.gov.uk/ratings or by viewing a sticker in participating outlets.

Jaguar is outpaced by Sheps

BREWER Shepherd Neame saw off internationally-famous names to land an award.

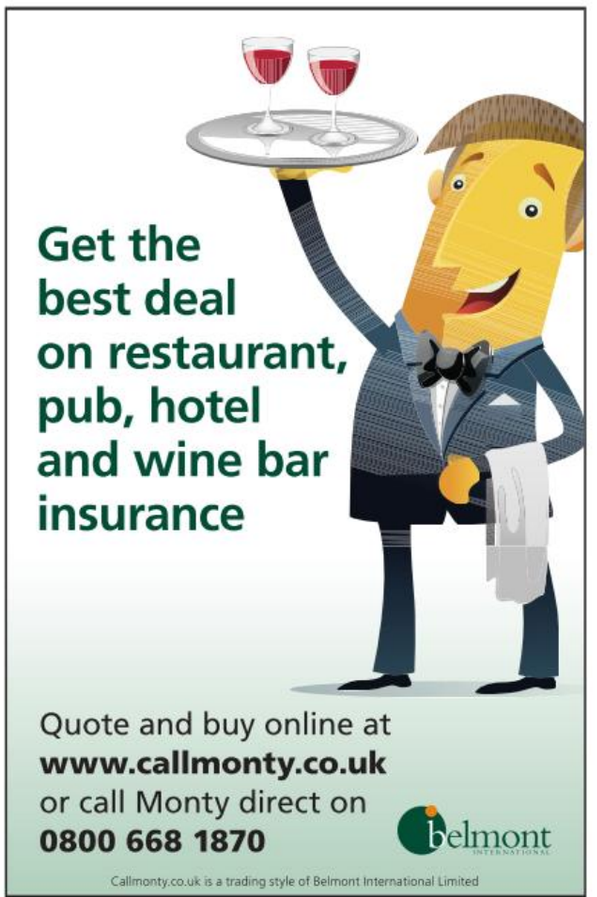
The likes of Jaguar Land Rover, accountants McBrides, Joy Mining, and Catalent Pharma Solutions, were humbled as the Kent firm took the supply chain and logistics category at the Manufacturer of the Year Awards 2010.

This followed a transformation of the whole business process at Sheps' Faversham HQ, from raw materials procurement to customer delivery, resulting in increased capacity and availability and reduced costs.

Production and distribution director Tom Falcon said: "We have worked hard to implement changes and practices across the supply chain that were previously unfamiliar.

"Everyone has played their role in ensuring that production of our beer, warehousing and distribution runs as efficiently as possible. This is worthy recognition for a huge team effort."

Earlier this year, the brewer was also honoured at the Process Excellences Awards for best improvement project and was a finalist at the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Awards for supply chain innovation.



BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

Swimming in the right direction, says gold star

INSPIRED: Adrian Moorhouse at the Business Link summit

OLYMPIC gold medal swimmer Adrian Moorhouse MBE has praised Kent firms for making positive strokes as the UK economy recovers.

Now MD of Lane4, an award-winning performance development consultancy he co-founded in 1995, he told a summit of 60 managers and owners from across the county: "It is enormously encouraging for the local economy to see so many businesses in Kent having such a healthy appetite for sustainable growth." The event at the Ramada, Hollingbourne, Maidstone, had been staged by Government-sponsored Business Link to launch dedicated support services for growing businesses.

And the former 1988 Seoul Olympics star – rated No1 in breaststroke for six consecutive years – said afterwards: "Seeing a full house at an event focused entirely on the subject of business growth is a very positive development.

"Self-belief and confidence are beginning to replace doubt and navel-gazing. And, judging by the reaction of the owners and managers at the event, there is real determination to ensure business growth is achieved on firm foundations and not just a quick fix or short-term goal.

"These have been testing times for many businesses, but we can all learn from each other and I'm delighted that the open and frank exchanges of opinion were much more forward-looking than I had expected. Such a progressive yet practical attitude is helping ambitious firms stay open-minded about the challenges they face and to look to the future with confidence rather than trepidation."

Business Link's Laura Pelling said: "Adrian's presentation was terrific.To hear how his approach to business growth and achievement relates closely to his experience and determination to bounce back from disappointment to win Olympic gold was an inspirational and motivational message."

Panto scene is

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK

THE BIG INTERVIEW

There is much talk of commercial and household spending being reined in this Christmas – though the shops seem to be bustling. But one sector where it's definitely business as usual and more is in pantomimes, a British entertainment phenomenon.
One of the fastest growing and acclaimed production companies is Kent-based Evolution Pantomimes, turning over some £2 million a year and run by husband and wife team Paul and Emily Hendy. Over Christmas and into the New Year they are staging five pantomimes for six weeks around England, including Robin Hood at The Marlowe Theatre Arena in Canterbury and Jack and the Beanstalk at Chatham's Central Theatre.
Far from being a seasonal job, it's an all-year round task, as Paul explained to business editor STEVE LOADER

PAUL HENDY

THOSE in the acting profession have their superstitions, so pantomime producer Paul Hendy avoided mentioning the 'Scottish play' and was probably touching wood when he told Business Week: "The panto business seems to have been recession-proof. Even in Sheffield, an area suffering in the downturn, our production is £30,000 ahead on tickets sales compared to last year.

"All of our shows are up on last year and I think it's well known that the Canterbury production usually takes £1 million at the box office.

"There's an attitude that 'Whatever happens, we are not giving up on our panto' – it's the annual family outing or treat. You'll often see three generations of families going.

"OK, I know a few theatres where things are not so bright, but we have built a reputation for quality and audiences keep coming back, so we carry over gags and sketches – there would be uproar if we left them out.

"And a successful panto is crucial to most UK theatres, because it allows them to put on other stuff that is important but less likely to attract big audiences."

PAUL HENDY'S CV

- **1984 – starts as a Bluecoat at a holiday park in Clacton-on-Sea**
- 1988 – becomes entertainment manager at a park in Newquay, aged just 22
- **1990 – TV break as presenter of children's TV show The Disney Club**
- 1998 – with Davina McCall, co-fronts the challenge show Don't Try This At Home,when his Shoppers' Challenge was one of the popular features
- **2000 – becomes presenter of the Wheel Of Fortune game show**
- 2004 – with wife Emily, forms Evolution Productions out of the former Kevin Wood Productions

Paul and his wife Emily live at Eastry, near Sandwich, and run Evolution Pantomimes, which actually did evolve out of well-known Kent company Kevin Wood Productions, set up by Emily's parents Kevin and Helga – Kevin has now retired, but Helga still works on Evolution's costumes. The new company has expanded under Paul and Emily's joint management: he specialises in the creative side, with responsibilities for casting and print design and has scripted five and is directing two of this season's productions.

EMILY looks after the logistics, schedules and key admin such as ensuring all the strict paperwork is adhered to for the 200 or so juvenile actors used in the five pantos.

"What's great though," added Paul. "Is that we crossover in so many areas and complement each other. In this small industry, a married couple management team is unique."

Despite the hectic nature of the business, they are also bringing up two young children, Freddie, five, and Poppy, one.

"I like to try to do the school run whenever I can and we always take August off for family time, " said Paul. "But people say, 'When does it start getting busy for you before the panto season?' It never really stops, actually.

"We already know all our titles for next year and have approached a couple of artists. You need a lead time of 13 months or so to get the good panto stars. Some are

From corporate brochures to stationery and posters, we cater for all your design and print requirements.

Call us today for a no obligation quote on **01303 817154** or email **studio@kosmedia.co.uk**

KOScreative PART OF KOS MEDIA LTD

booming – oh, yes it is!

PAST MASTERS: Scene from Evolution Productions' Aladdin panto

born to it and you just have to have them, like a football team revolves around a star striker or key midfielder. We are already talking about next year to Dave Lee, for instance, a Kent legend in comedy."

Paul should know his business; now aged 44, he started appearing in panto at 17, usually in the comedy Buttons role though occasionally as the villain, and stopped only recently.

"It was great, but just became too much with everything else I was doing. I don't really miss it and I still get the occasional fix anyway, by understudying when someone can't go on for some reason."

The Marlowe itself holds fond memories for Paul and Emily. He grew up in Shropshire while Emily comes from Deal, but they met in 1997 when her mum and dad's company was staging Beauty and the Beast at the Marlowe and Paul was in the cast.

BY this time, Paul had also broken into TV as presenter of the popular Disney Club children's programme, after cutting his teeth as a holiday park entertainer in Britain and abroad, though the lure of comedy would bring him back to live performance: "I grew up on diet of Morecambe and Wise and Tommy Cooper and performing in and now putting on pantos is a natural extension of that."

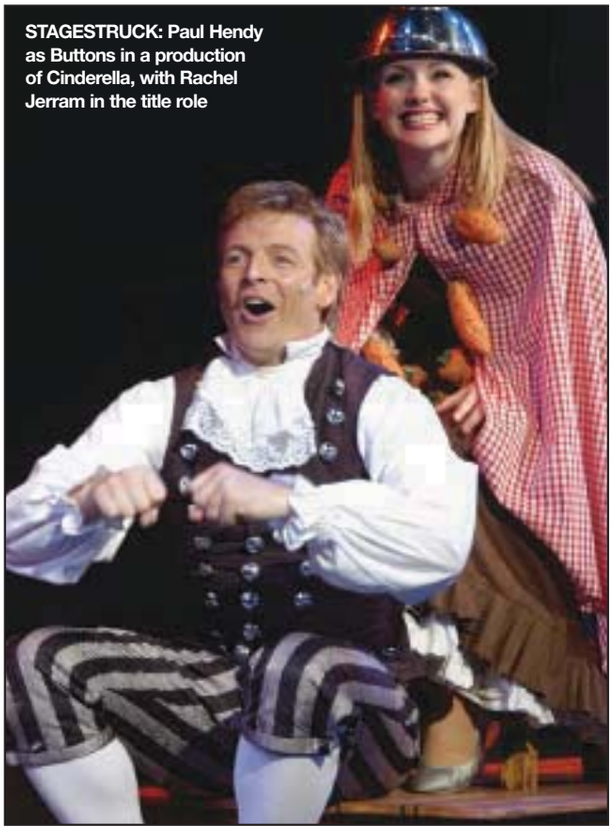
It has also enabled him to become a skilled corporate entertainer, but another venture is currently on hold – published author.

Based on his own showbiz experiences, his first book, Diary of a C-List Celebrity, was published in 2005, followed by Who Killed Simon Peters, last year. He said: "It's something I'm very proud of, but it's hard work and something of a busman's holiday when I'm also trying to plough through scripts as well, so I'm not rushing to write any more. The money was OK, but I didn't do it for the money."

If he gets any spare time, he says he likes to watch films – particularly comedies.

PAUL'S TOP TIPS

- Never let quality slip – "There's an old saying, 'You can shear a sheep many times, but scalp it just once' and that goes for panto audiences or any customers really."
- Understand what everyone in your company does for you – "I have done most of the jobs here at some stage in my career and it gives me a great insight into how things are going at any one time and avoids nasty surprises."



STAGESTRUCK: Paul Hendy as Buttons in a production of Cinderella, with Rachel Jerram in the title role

AND he clearly enjoys putting his experience into scripts, which have led to an unusual contribution to the UK export drive being called for lately. "We are unique in that we export pantos to America," he said, adding that a theatre in the west coast city of Seattle – a home of hi-tech industry – is now in its fourth year of staging Evolution-inspired pantomimes.

"We get to see a DVD of the productions and it is a bit weird seeing the American interpretation of something so typically British, but they keep coming back for more," said Paul.

Another Evolution sideline is hiring out unused gear. A warehouse near Dover is home to the company's 16 complete panto sets and 3,000 costumes.

Paul said: "It's pretty crowded in there when they're all in storage, but hiring out what we aren't using can be lucrative, though we also need them to be available for refurbishment. We have two full-time staff working on that.

"And that's all part of maintaining quality and looking to innovate, too."

He is excited by the fact that this year's Chatham panto has two major new technical features, a 12ft tall animatronic Giant and a beanstalk that grows before the audience's eyes.

And the Canterbury production is being staged in a huge marquee while the Marlowe Theatre itself is closed for redevelopment.

"It's a 1,200-seat temporary theatre and, to my knowledge, it has never been done with a panto on this scale before," Paul said.

NO-BRAINER: Paul Hendy as the Scarecrow in The Wizard of Oz

The UK's Business School for Europe

A world-class MBA programme

Part-time study is available on selected Master's programmes

A range of tailor-made business and management programmes for middle and senior management

For more information on the MBA programme or other courses we offer please email Samantha Blanchard at s.blanchard@kent.ac.uk or call 01227 824146

www.kent.ac.uk/kbs

Kent Business School

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

Health in the workplace

FIVE organisations in Tonbridge and Malling are taking part in a health and well-being project aimed at encouraging staff to lead healthier lifestyles.

Organised by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and funded by NHS West Kent, the project is part of the Government's Change4Life programme and provides advice and information to help people stay happy and healthy by keeping active and eating well.

Officers from the council's environmental health and wellbeing teams, along with representatives from the NHS West Kent and Kenward Trust, launched the project at South East Water and at Smurfit Kappa Townsend Hook, both in Snodland.

About 40 members of staff each from South East Water and Smurfit Kappa Townsend Hook received wellness checks and a range of health-related advice including: health walks, trials for gym equipment, nutrition, stopping smoking, alcohol and drugs, mental health and checks to assess BMI, blood pressure, waist circumference and lung function.

GO WITH THE FLOW: South East Water staff during the Change4Life launch at the firm's Snodland offices

The aim is to build long-term changes into people's lives and staff will receive three-monthly follow-up checks to monitor their health and changes in behaviour.

Three other organisations in the borough have signed up to the programme. Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald and staff at the council itself have already received wellness checks and advice. And Kent Police will take part in the programme this month.

Marion Gibbon, consultant in Public Health for NHS West Kent said: "The Change4Life programme offers great opportunities for staff to look at changes they can make to be healthier. Small changes can lead to a big difference."

Roger McKenna, of Smurfit Kappa Townsend Hook, said: "Our catering contractor, who also promotes healthy eating, provided healthy options on the canteen menu and the firm gave every member of staff a piece of fruit instead of jam roly-poly. Although it was too cold to take a walk along the river, there were plenty of takers for the wellness check, trying out exercise machines, the smoothie bike, the head massage and picking up hints and tips from the experts on hand."

COME snow, ice and frost, Tenterden florist Barry Jones & Sons was determined that – whatever the weather – one Tenterden lady would receive her 100th birthday flowers this week.

Daren Jones, proprietor of the High Street florists, received orders for a hand-tied bouquet, a posy and a presentation vase of flowers for Gwen Rayner, who lives at Rogersmead, Tenterden, and celebrated her centenary on Wednesday. "Regardless of the weather, we made sure Mrs Rayner received her birthday flowers, as did the 16 other people in Tenterden, Ashford, Cranbrook, High Halden, Headcorn and Staplehurst expecting celebration bouquets the same day."

When the weather turns grim, Daren delivers bouquets personally in his Land Rover Defender. He said: "Some people think I'm crazy to go out on the roads in the snow, but you can't let people down – birthday or anniversary flowers have to be delivered on the day."

Dev in the detail

DEV Biswal, chef-patron of The Ambrette Michelin-listed Indian restaurant, has launched his own brand Biswal's Premier marinades.

There are three products in the range: for chicken, lamb and fish.

The marinades, as used in Dev's Margate restaurant, are a response to customers asking the secret to The Ambrette's distinctive style and flavours so they can try them at home.

Formerly known as The Indian Princess and rebranded to distance itself from traditional curry houses, The Ambrette does not serve curry. Many of the dishes are only lightly spiced to enhance the natural flavours of the food.

Dev is critical of the fast-food mentality of some Indian eateries which pre-cook meat, then fry in a sauce to order, without giving the ingredients time to absorb the herbs and spices.

"My vision is to bring cultures together by introducing new food habits," said Dev, who wants to transform how Britons perceive Indian food. "I believe food, like art and music, is a catalyst in improving relationships among people across borders.

"Artists and musicians are worshipped as cultural ambassadors, whereas chefs are not," he said.

Marinating fish and meat is a typically eastern concept in home cooking. According to Dev, lamb should be marinated for at least four hours, but fish a maximum of an hour. The 250ml jars contain instructions to apply at room temperature and leave to stand in the fridge.

MARINADES: Dev Biswal

The marinades were trialled at the Broadstairs Food Festival, where Dev gave masterclass cookery demonstrations.

LOVAT
INSURANCE BROKERS LIMITED

Insurance for Business, Professionals and Private Clients.

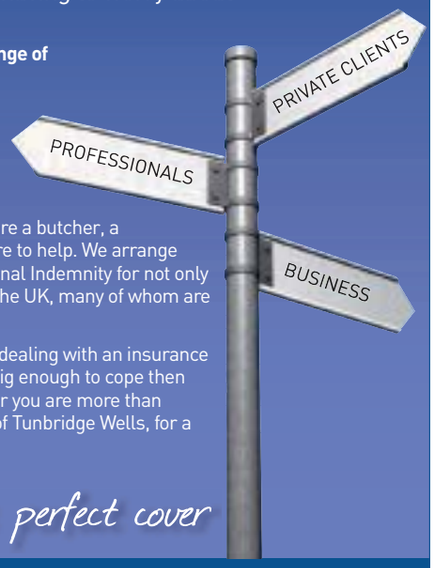
Business Insurance

Rent, Business Rates, Austerity Measures – you've got enough to worry about without having to worry about your insurance cover.

At Lovat we can offer you a complete range of solutions to your insurance needs.

Our dedicated and knowledgeable staff are able to offer you professional advice whether you sell the widget or manufacture it, whether you build the office or own it, or whether you need a solicitor or are one; in fact whether you are a butcher, a baker or a candle stick maker we are here to help. We arrange covers from Business Travel to Professional Indemnity for not only many local firms but companies across the UK, many of whom are household names.

So if you would like the peace of mind of dealing with an insurance broker that is small enough to care but big enough to cope then give us a call. We are happy to visit you, or you are more than welcome to visit our offices in the heart of Tunbridge Wells, for a private consultation.



Helping you find the perfect cover

Please contact our Commercial Team for more information and a quotation.
Tel: 01892 509037 stuart@lovatins.co.uk www.lovatins.co.uk
Calverley House, 55 Calverley Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2TU
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Part of the Bestinvest group.

unique business solutions

How do you fit a square peg into a round hole? By nature, these pieces don't fit together, so if the dilemma is to be solved, the square must be rounded, the hole must be squared or they each must be modified to fit together.

Certain types of problems have unique solutions. We pride ourselves on being different. We ensure that every single client receives the very best advice, support and quality of work, no matter what their background, tailored to their specific needs.

Whitehead Monckton
unique to Kent

Lawyers and Investment Managers

www.whitehead-monckton.co.uk

Maidstone t. 01622 698000 **Tenterden t.** 01580 765722

Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Whitehead Monckton 59423.
Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

High price of status symbol office culture

PETTY power plays over office space and 'nesting' behaviour costs companies an estimated 50 per cent extra on their property budgets.

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Management consultants Advanced Workplace Associates (AWA) published the finding after assessments taken from 70 buildings including some 30,000 desks, 500 hot desks and 640 meeting rooms.

These showed that desk space is occupied just 49 per cent of the time and some workspaces for as little as 27 per cent.

AWA managing director Andrew Mawson said millions of people had been coming to the office every day to work at 'their' desks since the dawn of the industrial era.

He added: "The size of a manager's office and the position of the desk have, in some organisations, been a sign of power and status.

"In this conventional world, architects, chartered surveyors and property developers have considered workplace capacity in terms of square footage and occupiers have measured space efficiency in terms of area per full-time equivalent. This makes offices hugely inefficient."

He added that each employee might also have five or six weeks' holiday a year, up to two weeks off sick, and periods for offsite visits such as training courses and meetings, making each employee away one day in five.

Departmental 'ownership' of space is another potential waste as managers hold on to desks which may be occupied in the future and to secure their headcount to retain status.

Space may even be allocated for seasonal workers, such as auditors, once a year.

So-called hot desks, provided for staff dropping into the office, are used just 16 per cent of the time and very much a choice of last resort, according to AWA.

On the other hand, said Mr Mawson: "Enlightened organisations realise that the capacity of the building lies not just in its space, but also in its time available.

"While managers want to have their team around them, a more flexible approach is to operate in 'hubs' – anchor points around which the team gathers using available desks."

Technology has played a key part in breaking some of the old working habits, says the report. Initially, mobile phones and laptops allowed a minority to operate offsite.

Further advances mean that people can now log on to company phone and computer networks anywhere – within the building, around other buildings and outside the office.

"What is needed is a complete understanding of the way that people can work," said Mr Mawson. "Organisations can accommodate 14 employees per 10 workspaces, through managed home working and flexible use of space.

"With these measures, 80 per cent desk utilisation is achievable without affecting productivity. Architects and interior designers need to adopt an evidence-based approach to their design and focus on what is needed rather than what people think they want.

"Ultimately, if estate managers want to cut budgets or to reduce carbon footprints, better use of space is the answer."

WASTE OF SPACE: The big desk/big status culture is costing firms a fortune

MEMBERS of the Federation of Small Businesses in the county have welcomed the Government's pledge to help make small business rate relief automatic. Business rates are the third largest cost to many small firms.

The FSB has long campaigned for rate relief to be made automatic. Every year millions of pounds – calculated and earmarked by the Treasury for eligible businesses – go unclaimed.

Roger House, chairman of the FSB in Kent and Medway, said: "After rent and wages, rates are the biggest cost to many businesses and steps to help small firms automatically get the relief they are entitled to is welcome news. This cash injection will be of great help to many businesses.

"The onus is now on councils to not needlessly make small businesses go through an application process when it is obvious they are eligible. We have developed excellent relations with councils through our small business engagement accord and we will be urging them to use their new powers to ensure all small businesses receive the relief they are entitled to."

Growing confidence

KINGS HILL: More office space deals this quarter

SIGNALLING a return to commercial growth and confidence across Kent, the Kings Hill business park and mixed-use community, has completed property deals on 15,000 sq ft of office space this quarter.

This takes the site near West Malling to a total leasing over the past year of more than 43,000 sq ft.

Big hits include Global IT company MTK Wireless renewing its lease on 10,527 sq ft in Tower View, where it develops multi-mode cellular transceivers.

Another IT concern, Relational Database Technology, has also renewed on 5,184 sq ft in Abbey Wood Road. The company develops automated administration solutions for the insurance market and introduced real-time credit card transactions for websites. The past year has also included deals with Barclays, Victoria Trading, Tieto, Skye IT and Locate in Kent totalling over 28,000 sq ft, while Rolex moved into a purpose-built 75,000 sq ft HQ on the park.

Andrew Blevins, MD of Kings Hill developer Liberty Property Trust UK, welcomed the renewals and arrivals.

He said: "We are a strong, stable landlord and use the sheer scale of the park's buying power to negotiate keen utility costs for our tenants.

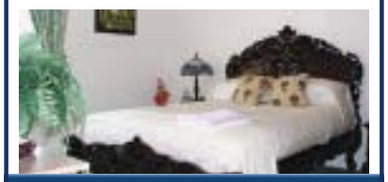
"We also work hard to deliver value for money in relation to our service charges, which is especially important to all our tenants who are looking to cut operational costs."

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight on agribusiness

adams&co Est. 1951
many local businesses for sale

BUSY MALE HAIR SALON *Gravesend*

Spacious men's salon with 7 workstations. Well estab business, Owned since 1960. Separate shop adjacent sub-let incoming rent £10,000 pa. Salon T/o £1,801 pw (ex. vat). Rent for entire property £14,000 pa. Long lease. £30,000 Ref: KT001116



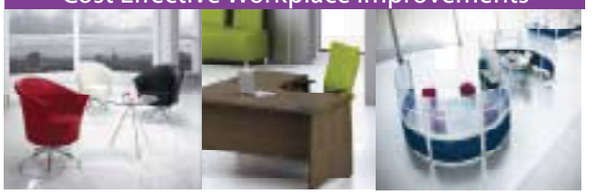
STUNNING RURAL GUEST HOUSE *Kent Coast*

14 en-suite letting rooms + superior 4 bed owner's accomm with 40 ft. sitting room. 2.5 acre garden, licensed for weddings. 39 ft. guest dining room + function room. Panoramic sea views, parking. T/o £103,823. Freehold £1,270,000 Ref: KT001112

Tel: 01424 892382
www.adamsandco.com

Kent Office Solutions

Cost Effective Workplace Improvements



- Office Furniture
- Planning & Design
- Installation
- Project Management
- Seating
- Storage Solutions
- Boardroom / Conference
- Reception
- Breakout
- Library
- Partitioning
- Commercial Stationery

OUR ADVICE AND IDEAS COST NOTHING! Please call us on 01227 450055

FLEXIBLE LEASING OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Kent Office Solutions Limited
2/3 Orange Street Canterbury Kent CT1 2JA
Tel: 01227 450055 Email: sales@kentofficesolutions.com

Picture: ADY KERRY

HOPEFUL: Dani Masters is looking to get back on the LET for first time since 2008

Cross-country trio earn European squad call up

A TRIO of Kent athletes will be representing Great Britain next weekend at the European Cross Country Championships.

Natalie Gray, from Medway & Maidstone, goes in the under-23 women's race, while Tonbridge duo Robbie Farnham-Rose and Andy Combs are in the six-man under-20 squad heading for Albufeira, Portugal.

It is the second successive appearance at the event for Gray, whose 18th place in Dublin helped Britain win gold in the team event.

The 22-year-old, who has won the last two county cross-country titles, has spent the last three months training in New Mexico, USA.

Adrian Lowther, team manager at Medway & Maidstone, said: "After making an appearance last year it's important to keep yourself in the selectors' minds and become a regular fixture in the team. Natalie's certainly done that by earning this call-up."

Farnham-Rose and Combs were selected on the back of top six finished in the trials in Liverpool last weekend.

Mark Hookway, winter team manager at Tonbridge, was delighted with the selection.

"I don't think the club have ever had two people in the same Great Britain team before, there aren't many who have represented their country one way or another anyway.

"It's really good for both of them in different ways. Andy was sixth in the world championships trials last March and was first reserve, while Robbie's just incredibly young to be competing at this level – he doesn't turn 17 until January."

The pressure will be on the pair, with Britain defending the under-20 men's title after victory last year.

Picture: TONBRIDGE AC

Pictures: IGOR KUPCO

FINE EFFORT: Robbie-Farnham Rose and Natalie Gray will race for GB

Ladies' bid for full tour cards

DANI Masters' and Claire Aitken's hopes of gaining full cards for the Ladies European Tour (LET) next year remain intact after the pair successfully navigated their way through pre-qualifying.

A massive field of 165 players assembled at La Manga in southern Spain this week for the notoriously difficult event, with organisers having to split them into two separate groups.

Only the top 35 from each side of the draw at the end of this week's four rounds progressed to final qualifying later this month, where 30 full LET cards for 2011 will be up for grabs.

Masters, from Maidstone, is looking to regain her place on tour after losing her card in 2008. The 27-year-old has only played in seven LET events this year, but found form quickly and consistently strong rounds of 74, 72, 72 and 70 saw her finish fourth in her section.

Gravesend's Aitken has successfully navigated Q-School for the past two years and is in good shape to try for the hat-trick. The Mid Kent member, 24, began badly with a seven-over-par 78 on the north course in Monday's first round, but got back into contention with a superb three-under-par 70 on the south course in round two.

Back-to-back 74s to close saw Aitken finish eight-over-par in a share of 18th place, five shots clear of 36th place.

Final qualifying begins on December 15.

County trio set for England tour to Oz

KENT have three players in the England women's squad for a tour to Australia in the New Year.

Picture: ADY KERRY

Charlotte Edwards (pictured), who recently became the most capped player in women's cricket history, will captain the side. Lydia Greenway and Susie Rowe are also in the 15-strong squad heading Down Under.

England begin with three One-Day Internationals, starting on January 5. It is followed by a five match Twenty20 series, which will see the teams playing directly before the men at the Adelaide Oval and Melbourne Cricket Ground.

The tour finishes with a four-day Test match, beginning on January 22, where England will look to retain the women's Ashes for the fourth successive series.

Haines ready to take on golfing big guns

Rookie unfazed ahead of European Tour debut

NEXT STEP: Matt Haines is fast becoming one of Britain's top golfing prospects and (right) with with the European Challenge Tour San Domenico Grand Final Picture (with trophy): PHIL INGLIS

BEING star struck is not something that's likely to affect golfer Matt Haines, who begins his maiden European Tour campaign next week.

By TOM HOWARD

Haines, who only turned professional this year, heads to South Africa for the Alfred Dunhill Championship as he begins a new chapter of his career after earning the right to play against some of the world's elite golfers.

The Rochester & Cobham Park member is fast becoming one of Britain's brightest golf prospects after a glittering amateur career, which he followed up with a second-placed finish in this year's European Challenge Tour.

The 20-year-old, who only completed his Challenge Tour campaign five weeks ago with victory in the San Domenico Grand Final, is looking forward to the task of competing at European golf's top level.

With the prospect of playing established names such as Lee Westwood, Rory McIlroy and Graeme McDowell, he says he must keep a level head, beginning at the Alfred Dunhill Championship on Thursday.

He said: "I just see it as another tournament. It is the start of a new path for me though for sure. The European Tour is where I want to be and I need to try and settle into it as soon as possible. I can't be overawed by it as I have a job to do.

"I'll be a bit rusty after some time off and also not being able to prepare properly at home, but I'm certainly eager to face the challenge ahead. I'm sure once I get on Tour I'll be able to pick the brains of some players once I get to meet and know them."

While the snow and freezing temperatures have played havoc with the sporting schedule this week, the conditions have equally affected Haines' preparations for the trip to South Africa.

He said: "This unbelievable weather, for the time of year anyway, is really hampering things. Frozen greens and really cold temperatures is not really ideal preparation for what I'll face in South Africa. I've been preparing mentally though and have been in the gym too."

Maidstone golfer Matt Ford, who earned a place on the European Challenge Tour for next season, is also due to take part in tournament, which begins on Thursday.

Lisa puts 1500m gold at top of list for 2012

Athlete puts 800m on backburner after injury-hit season

By TOM HOWARD

MIDDLE distance runner Lisa Dobriskey has confirmed competing in the 1500-metres remains her priority leading up to the 2012 London Olympics.

The world silver medallist has been contemplating the idea of doubling up by competing in the 800m as well as the 1500m, a similar approach adopted by double Olympic champion Dame Kelly Holmes in 2004.

Dobriskey, the 26-year-old Ashford athlete, was planning to take part in both distances in October's Commonwealth Games in India, before a thigh injury struck which ruled her out of the competition.

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

FLYING THE FLAG: Lisa Dobriskey says 1500m Olympic gold is her number-one priority

Priority

However, the former Commonwealth champion has reiterated her desire to compete only in the 1500m event for the immediate future.

She told Kent on Sunday: "The 1500m will always be my main priority and any 800s I run are just a means to an end. They keep things fresh mentally too, just to have a go at something different.

"I had entered both events in Delhi as it was at the end of the season and the 800m was after the 1500m, so there was no pressure."

Dobriskey has returned to full training after recovering from a thigh problem at her Loughborough base. After a season rocked by niggles, she is desperate to come through the winter unscathed.

She said: "Consistency will be the key to me having a good winter. The past few winters have been fragmented through injury and I feel my fitness has suffered because of this. Having a good winter is crucial if I want to perform well in the summer.

"It is where the foundations are laid both in terms of overall fitness and correcting any structural weaknesses.

"I'm fortunate to be supported by such a great medical team in Loughborough. I have worked with them for a long time, so they understand my body and needs.

"I am generally a high-maintenance athlete and have a lot of physiotherapy throughout most of the year. In a normal week I would see the physio between three and five times and have two hours' general massage in addition."

Picture: ADY KERRY

INSIDE STORY: Canterbury ladies (in red) will hope to go one better

Clubs move indoors on road to Wembley finals

THE BATTLE to book a place in the super sixes finals at Wembley Arena begins next weekend with the first half of the indoor hockey season.

After cruising to the Division One title last season, Canterbury men are back among the country's best sides in the Premier Division.

The group stage fixtures are split across two weekends, with the first batch of games held in Bristol in a week's time. The top four then go on to the finals weekend at the end of January, which this year has been moved to Wembley.

While the indoor season was once primarily used to keep players fit, it is now a significant part of the calendar.

Canterbury player/coach Kwan Browne is treating it with plenty of respect after feeling the benefits a year ago.

He said: "Last season we played a lot of indoor hockey in the winter which sharpened us up for the second half of the season and hopefully the same will happen again.

"It really helped and was good for team bonding because you stay together overnight. Teams definitely take it more seriously than they used to a few years ago."

Canterbury ladies finished second in the Premier Division last season to reach the finals weekend, but lost in the semi-finals to eventual champions Leicester.

Nick Clark's side have excelled at the start of the outdoor season and will be optimistic of reaching the latter stages once again. Their opening games are in Worcester, where Chelmsford, Trojans, Sutton Coldfield and Ipswich are the opposition.

Further down the pyramid, both Sevenoaks men and ladies are in Division One, but do not start their campaigns until the New Year.

South Africa next stop for England sevens ace

LIFE as a globe-trotting international rugby sevens player takes Dan Caprice from Dubai to South Africa this week as the IRB World Series gets into full swing.

The Chatham-born wing kicked off the competition with England in the Middle East this weekend and in the first of four double-headers in the series, the action heads to the Outeniqua Park Stadium in George on Saturday.

Having come so close to glory with his country at the Commonwealth Games in India, Caprice firmly believes England can win the World Series for the first time since its inception in 1999.

While the 21-year-old made six appearances in the last World Series, he has since cemented his place in the squad and is now one of the key England figures alongside skipper Ben Gollings and Fiji-born Isoa Damudamu.

Caprice, a former Sevenoaks schoolboy, is one of eight full-time sevens players in the England squad which bears only one change from the group which travelled to Delhi in October.

That consistency should stand Caprice and his team-mates in good stead as they face Russia, Kenya and sevens powerhouses New Zealand in Pool B.

All pool games will be played on Saturday, with England likely to face either Argentina or South Africa – the side who pipped them to Commonwealth bronze – in the quarter-finals on Sunday.

Caprice was one of the individual stars for England in Delhi and they will again rely on his searing pace to open up opposition defences and leave them in a healthy position when the series returns in New Zealand in February.

REGULAR: Dan Caprice has secured his place in the England sevens squad

Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

1960 — 50 YEARS AGO: GILLINGHAM manager Harry Barratt was furious after Priestfield was used for a county youth game between Kent and Suffolk.

He said: "They have ruined my ground and with two home games on the trot what chance have we got of improving matters?"

The Gills spread two bales of Irish peat across the surface in an attempt to make it playable.

In cricket the debate of 'chucking' showed no sign of abating, with Kent manager Les Ames saying the English were in position to lecture the Australians, who were due to tour in 1961.

"Who are we to say that Meckiffe or Rorke throw," he said, citing the case of the English bowler Tony Lock, who was called for throwing in the 1954 series with the West Indies. "At the time nothing was said, the only umpire to call him was Fred Price and he was not supported.

"He was almost ostracised and Lock was allowed to get away with throwing. Now suddenly we have said we are going to stamp out this business."

1985 — 25 YEARS AGO: FOLKESTONE chairman Freddie Frost stepped down, ending a 50-year association with the Cheriton Road club, after refusing to sanction a £120 per week cut to the wage bill of the struggling Southern League side.

Quoting seminal MOR rockers Bachman Turner Overdrive, Gillingham's Keith Oakes said: "You Aint Seen Nothing Yet!" after the Gills beat Doncaster 4-0 to underline their promotion credentials.

Ron Hillyard shrugged off the flu to play and the Gills were 2-0 up in the first six minutes through Martin Robinson and a Dave Mehmet penalty.

Tony Cascarino added a third on 48 minutes and Dave Shearer scored a sensational fourth from the acutest of angles.

An FA Vase replay between Tunbridge Wells and Camberley was abandoned due to fog with the score 5-5.

2000 — 10 YEARS AGO: COLIN Cowdrey, one of Kent and England's greatest ever cricketers, passed away aged 67.

Lord Cowdrey of Tonbridge was taken ill while attending Canterbury week in July and was reported to have suffered a stroke.

He was the youngest player ever to represent his school at Lord's when he appeared for Tonbridge as a 13-year-old and went on to score 22 centuries for England.

England captain Nasser Hussain said: "As well as being one of the most gifted batsmen of his generation, he was also one of the nicest people you could meet and a good friend to the England team."

At the time of his death Cowdrey was the fourth highest run scorer for England in Test matches, behind Graham Gooch, David Gower and Geoffrey Boycott – he has since been overtaken by Alec Stewart and Mike Atherton.

Hawk swoops into UK Championship

BARRY Hawkins (pictured) looked in good touch as he made light work of qualifying for the UK Championship this week.

The Dartford cueman arrived in Sheffield looking to build on his run to the last 16 at the World Open earlier this season.

Needing one win in qualifying to reach the UK Championship, he started well against Fergal O'Brien, winning the first session 6-2.

The world number 24 did not look troubled in Wednesday's concluding session, needing just under an hour to secure a 9-3 win.

It put him into the last 32 of the tournament in Telford, which starts this weekend, where he faces Marco Fu.

Kent sport stars have their say on twitter

As part of our new weekly series, we bring you the pick of the week's tweets from the county's sports stars

UNSURPRISINGLY the wintry weather was at the forefront of most of our sports Tweeters, although the snow was not met with delight in all quarters.

Kent skipper Rob Key managed to tear himself away from The X Factor long enough to have some fun in the snow, with catastrophic results @robkey612: "Not the best day. Took the wife's car out thinking I could go off roading in the snow. Got it stuck and wrecked the drivers side door whoops.

"[Fitness coach] Pete Kelly nor myself could push it out. Only took 4 hours before we got help."

Key wasn't the only one having motoring troubles. Pembury's Touring Car driver Shaun Hollamby kept his followers on tenterhooks on a tortuous journey home @AmDessex: "Stuck on M25 at Dartford. 3 and half hours and we have got 3 miles! I can't see any movement. Long night ahead I think?

"Nearly 6 hours and still no where near home. Journey normally takes 20-30 minutes! How come Europe deals with snow better than us?"

While Kent shivered its way into December, Sevenoaks Indycar racer Mike Conway had no qualms about rubbing it in from Miami @Mikeconwayirl: "Lunch meeting with @markblundellf1 by the beach… heard it snowing in England! Lol sorry everyone…"

The weather was far from the thoughts of Kent overseas target Wayne Parnell, who was preoccupied by El Classico on Monday night. @WayneParnell: "Can't wait for El Classico later. Going to be great soccer/football. Ronaldo v Messi.

"Oh la la this is exciting stuff… Madrid need a goal in the next ten minutes…

"Ok maybe its time to go sleep. Real Madrid up to a rugby score now. 3-0 Barcelona r on fire. King Messi the commander!!!"

Follow us at www.twitter.com/kentsport for the latest sports news from around the county

RFU play waiting game over eye-gouge incident

Club still in the dark as to whether they will face punishment over player's injury

By **STEVE TERVET**

MAIDSTONE RFC are still waiting to learn whether they will face action from the Rugby Football Union [RFU] for the deliberate gouge which blinded an opposition player in one eye.

At the hearing last month which cleared Matt Iles of injuring Gravesend's Clarence Harding in a Kent Cup tie on January 17, the RFU ruled an unidentified Maidstone player had deliberately injured the South African number eight.

However, Maidstone had still received no word from the RFU when KoS went to press, as union bosses deliberated over whether to take further action.

Should they proceed against the county town club, the RFU have the power to impose a fine, deduct points or even relegate Maidstone, but with so few similar cases in recent years the union are proceeding with caution.

"The legal officer is still discussing whether to bring action against Maidstone," said an RFU spokesman.

"It's something that has to be looked at very carefully because it would set a precedent, saying a club is responsible for what happened. That's quite a major step and we're not taking it lightly. It is being debated fairly robustly by our legal team."

With no individual player now facing charges for injuring Harding, any action would fall under rule 5.12, which covers acts prejudicial to the interests of the union and/or the game.

For a club to collectively face punishment in this way is rare, although Doncaster club Thornesians were docked 10 points last month for fielding an underage player.

Deal & Betteshanger's 15-point deduction for the abandonment of their game against East Grinstead following a mass brawl in October also fell under rule 5.12, but Maidstone chairman Andy Golding said he had been given no hint of the RFU's next move.

BRUTAL: Clarence Harding was playing for Gravesend when he was blinded after being gouged by a Maidstone player

"We've had no indication whatsoever, we're in the dark as much as anyone else," he said.

"We expected something this week, but we've had nothing and I don't know what that means. We were hoping to hear either way whether they'll take action or not because we need to know."

The bans handed down to players found guilty of eye-gouging lend some insight into the stance taken by rugby's governing bodies against the offence.

Stade Francais scrum-half Julien Dupuy was banned for six months while his team-mate, prop David Attoub, is serving a 70-week ban for making contact with the eye area of Ulster's Stephen Ferris.

Man-of-the-match performance has Sarries' coach purring over Ransom

SPARK: Ben Ransom shone during debut

TEENAGE rugby star Ben Ransom is in the form of his life after turning in a man-of-the match display on his senior debut for Premiership club Saracens.

The former Tonbridge schoolboy is now bidding to secure a regular starting place with one eye on the Sarries' Boxing Day clash against London Wasps at Wembley Stadium.

Ransom, 18, was handed his first start for Saracens in their LV= Cup tie against Northampton Saints and he seized his opportunity by out-shining a host of more experienced players.

The performance earned Ransom individual praise from head coach Mark McCall and the Sidcup-born full-back said the experience had simply heightened his desire for more of the same.

"To get man-of-the-match was very pleasing and it was a great atmosphere, running out for the first-team," he said. "I've played a lot of 'A' League [with the academy side], but it was very different, playing with adults, a different style and level of physicality.

"Saracens are quite a tight unit, it's a real family environment. I'll keep pushing to get a starting place in the Premiership and I'm hoping to secure a starting place with England in the under-20 Six Nations."

Ransom, who first joined Saracens in 2007, spent time on loan with Blackheath and his impressive performances in National 1 persuaded Sarries to promote him to the senior set-up.

Having spent this week on a warm-weather England training camp in Portugal, Ransom's focus now switches back to club commitments as Saracens prepare for a crucial month of Heineken Cup and Premiership action.

Shaping up nicely

BRANDS Hatch's calendar for the 2011 season is taking shape following the announcement of the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) and British Formula 3 schedules.

The Kent circuit will continue to host two rounds of the BTCC series after being awarded the season opener to be held on the 1.2-mile Indy circuit on April 3. However, the biggest change for next season will see the circuit host the penultimate meeting, instead of the final round at the Grand Prix circuit on October 2.

The British Formula 3 Championship also returns to the track on June 19, with the Formula Two series heading to the venue a month later on July 24.

Brands have confirmed they will host three meetings of the British Superbike Championship, with the opening round (April 25), a summer mid season event taking place on (August 7) followed by the title decider (October 9).

By DAVID PRITCHARD

Pictures: ADY KERRY

Look Roo's back

Gills winger in vow to fight his way into first team after loan spell

REFRESHED after a month playing on loan in the Conference Premier, Luke Rooney has returned to Gillingham with a renewed desire to establish himself at Priestfield for the first time.

The 19-year-old winger's career to date has largely consisted of entertaining 20-minute cameos, as both Mark Stimson and Andy Hessenthaler have been reluctant to use him from the start. Of Rooney's 19 league appearances for the Gills, 17 have come from the bench.

Hopes were high in the summer this could be his breakthrough season, but the first three months of the campaign brought only a handful of brief substitute appearances and two starts in cup games.

When Eastbourne Borough, who Rooney helped avoid relegation on the final day of last season, enquired about another loan spell in October, it suited all parties. After four successive starts in the Conference, he is back and eager to make a point.

"I was keen to get out and get some games," he said. "It was only a month because the gaffer wanted me back for a reason. It's great to be back, Gillingham's where I want to be at the end of the day, that's my ultimate goal.

"I really do [get frustrated] – at the end of the day everyone wants to play. They say 'you're only young' but it doesn't matter to me. I'm not one of those young players who's happy to sit about and wait. I'm back sharper and I want to get back in the team."

Competition for places is due to increase as Gillingham's injury list begins to shorten, with Andy Barcham's imminent return providing a possible obstacle to Rooney. But he remains a viable option, particularly with another of his rivals, Bruce Inkango, unable to make his mark so far.

RETURN: Luke Rooney wants to fight for first-team place, but is facing stiff competition from (left) Andy Barcham, who is due to return from injury

As much as biding his time may go against Rooney's instincts, he insists he knows exactly what needs to be done to work his way into Hessenthaler's plans.

He said: "Hopefully just train really well, be on it every day in training and show the manager what I can do in reserve games. You have to be patient.

"I'd like a run in the team, I've never really had that and I feel if I do I could stay in there and make a difference. It's a long season, it's not half way through yet and it can still be a good season for me."

A good crowd overall

GILLINGHAM supporters are among the best behaved in the Football League according to figures released this week.

The Home Office statistics covering last season showed a 10 per cent decline in football-related arrests across England and Wales to 3,391. Almost half the fixtures covered by the report were completely free of police.

Within those encouraging figures Gillingham fared well. The club has just two supporters serving banning orders, which is fewer than 83 of the 92 clubs in the top four divisions, plus most of the non-league clubs surveyed, including Kidderminster Harriers, Salisbury City and Bangor City. Leeds United are at the other end of the scale, with 152 fans hit with banning orders.

Gillingham were one of 13 clubs not to have one of their supporters banned within the last 12 months.

Figures for arrests were also low. In their 46 games in League One last season, which included home and away games against Leeds and rivals Millwall and Charlton, just 14 Gills supporters were arrested.

The majority of offences were for violent and public disorder, while there were none for missile throwing or racist chanting.

A Gillingham club spokesman said: "We are pleased with the latest figures on crowd behaviour which serve to illustrate the excellent quality of support that Gillingham enjoy both home and away.

"We will continue to make every effort to maintain these standards and the excellent reputation of Gillingham Football Club."

Picture: DAVID PLUMB

REVENGE: Ram Marwa was sold by Hayes & Yeading when the club went full-time

Fleet midfielder has the chance to ram old club

MIDFIELDER Ram Marwa will be out to prove a point to his previous employers when Ebbsfleet United return to FA Trophy action next weekend.

The 30-year-old will line-up against Hayes & Yeading United, the club which released him at the end of last season as part of their plans to go full-time.

Marwa, who has become one of the first names on Ebbsfleet manager Liam Daish's team sheet, insists progress to round two is the most important thing, but admitted the nature of his departure from Church Road still rankled.

"I was surprised," he said. "I'd been there two-and-a–half years and it had probably been one of their most successful seasons. We stayed up as a part-time team and I scored important goals near the end of the season to earn some vital points which stopped people catching us.

"The manager [Daish] is very good with his training, he keeps us all fit but it was different at Hayes, a bit more relaxed. There's more structure here, we all know our jobs and the manager's seen something in me. I'm normally an attacking midfielder, but he's played me defensive and I'm absolutely loving it, I wished I'd always played there."

Marwa's steel has complemented the elegant passing of Ashley Carew in the Fleet midfield and the former Norway youth international believes his new side could easily hold their own in Conference Premier.

Having gained promotion to non-league's top division with both Hayes and St Albans City, Marwa is a vital voice of experience in the Fleet dressing-room and Stonebridge Road has quickly become somewhere he can call home.

"Ebbsfleet can count themselves as a big club for this level and even in the Conference," he said. "With our confidence right now, we could probably be mid-table in the Premier because we're going into games thinking we can score two or three goals and kill teams off."

Whites targeting another big cup scalp

DOVER Athletic have their eyes on another giant-killing after being drawn against Huddersfield Town in the FA Cup third round.

The Whites produced a memorable performance at Crabble last weekend as they booked a place in the third round for the first time in their history following a 2-0 win against Aldershot Town.

The Conference South club were hoping for a glamour tie against a Premier League side, but instead will face a trip to Yorkshire to play League One high-fliers Huddersfield Town, managed by ex-Newcastle midfielder Lee Clark.

Although slightly disappointed with the draw, Dover boss Martin Hayes says another cup shock is not out of the question at the Galpharm Stadium in January.

He said: "It does provide us with another chance of a giant-killing and we will have do our homework and learn from teams like Woking and FC United of Manchester, who have shown it is possible to cause League One sides problems."

In-form striker Adam Birchall has received the majority of the plaudits for his performances in the competition, and his brace against Aldershot took his FA Cup goal scoring tally to 11.

The Maidstone-born forward, who signed a two-year extension to his contract last month, says he is enjoying every minute at the club.

He said: "Since leaving Arsenal I haven't loved a club the way I love Dover at the moment. I'm 25 now but I think I'm starting to understand how I play best. I've been at teams in the Football League and people at the top are not that interested in going anywhere and although we are lower down it's nice to go somewhere with aspirations."

While interest in Birchall is set to skyrocket, Whites chairman Jim Parmenter has reiterated that there is no pressure for the club to sell their star striker.

He said: "We are not a selling football club and one of these clubs that needs to sell every player that somebody offers something for as we are financially secure. Adam is our player and he likes it here and we don't need to sell him, so as far as I'm concerned he stays at the club."

Pictures: SIMON HARRIS

GIANT-KILLERS: Dover celebrate making it into the third round and (left) Adam Birchall, who has scored 11 goals in the FA cup

TEEN PACE ACE SIGNS NEW DEAL

Shaw is keen to impress after injury

EXCLUSIVE

By **GLENN PEARSON**

ROOKIE pace bowler Ashley Shaw has set his sights on breaking into Kent's championship team next summer after signing a one-year contract extension this week.

The 19-year-old left-arm seamer plans to spend three months in Melbourne, Australia this winter building up his fitness, after injury blighted his first campaign on the professional staff.

The Crewe-born paceman, who follows Darren Stevens in committing his immediate future to the club, suffered with shin splints in his first season, which limited him to just four Twenty20 appearances.

He has since had an operation on both legs and has been working with Kent's fitness coach Peter Kelly to build up his strength and expects to be fit for the start of next season.

"I didn't have the best of seasons with injuries, but I had an operation towards the end of the season and now I'm back in full training and I'm really glad the club have given me a chance," he said.

"I will be back for the start of the season and my aim is to get into the first-team straight away, and that will come down to how I do in pre-season."

It proved a difficult first season for the teenager, who was eager to make an impact having been signed on a two-year deal from Minor Counties side Cheshire.

He made several appearances in Kent's second-team, but any momentum gained was halted by having to sit out games because of the pain caused by the injury.

"I think it was because my body wasn't used to playing so much," he explained.

"I would get through one day's cricket and then the next day it would just be too painful. It was a case of playing then having to rest for two or three days and then playing again which was a bit of a nightmare really.

"I have had the pain for a few years, but with the cricket I was playing in Minor Counties it was okay because of the break I was having in between.

"Being full-time and on the professional staff was a lot different, and probably the reason why it was so bad. It was more frustrating than anything else."

With Kent unlikely to make too many additions to the side before the start of next summer, if Shaw does report fit for pre-season and impresses in the second string, his chances of forcing his way into the Kent side looks promising.

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

BACK: Ashley Shaw had shin splints

Working alongside the likes of experienced campaigner Simon Cook has helped and Shaw felt that despite his limited time on the field, he learned a lot in his first season as a county cricketer.

He said: "It was definitely a big step up in terms of fitness, game awareness and discipline and I gained a lot of experience from it all, being around all the other boys.

"I still think there is a lot of good competition within the club as we have a lot of good, experienced bowlers.

"I still have a lot to do to get in the team."

Shaw was recommended to Kent by a contact of head coach Paul Farbrace and after half an hour of seeing him bowl at St Lawrence in pre-season, a decision was made to offer the left-arm seamer a deal.

Despite injury curtailing his hopes of adding to his four appearances this summer, his smooth action and the variation he would bring to the Kent attack were significant factors in the decision to offer him a contract extension.

Farbrace said: "We are excited by the promise he has shown; he has a fantastic action and is strong mentally.

"Unfortunately, he suffered with shin splints, but that was quickly addressed by our physio Nimmo Reid and he is now 100 per cent fit and ready to go and play in Melbourne."

THE SPENCER WING

The ideal gift to make someone you know feel special this Christmas

MEDICAL MICRODERMABRASION

Some of the skin conditions commonly treated are:

- Fine lines and wrinkles
- Blackheads and whiteheads
- Acne prone skin
- Sun damaged skin

Client Satisfaction Is Our Future

VOUCHERS AVAILABLE

The benefits of Medical microdermabrasion include:

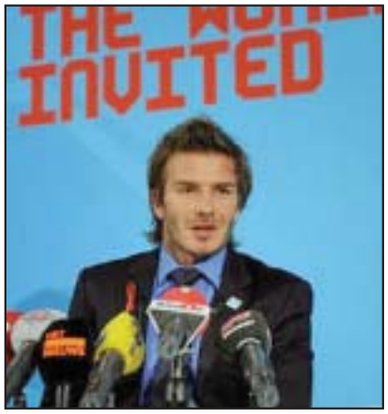
- Suitable for most skin types
- No anaesthesia required
- No pain or discomfort
- No recovery time

For information on treatments, please contact:

Julie at The Spencer Wing
QEQM Hospital Margate
01843 234569
julie.pain@thespencerwing.com

Danielle at The Spencer Wing
William Harvey Hospital Ashford
01233 616201
danielle.hazelwood@thespencerwing.com

East Kent Medical Services Ltd,
The Spencer Wing,
QEQM - 01843 234569 &
WHH - 01233 616201



MISS: David Beckham helped England bid

'Loss of World Cup bid won't hurt our game'

LOSING the right to host the 2018 World Cup was "hugely disappointing", but will not have a negative affect on football in this country, according to the chairman of the Kent Football Association, ***writes David Pritchard***.

England's bid team went into Thursday's vote in Zurich cautiously optimistic after a successful three days lobbying Fifa's executive committee members. The high-profile team included sports minister Hugh Robertson, MP for Faversham and Mid Kent, alongside Prince William, David Beckham and Prime Minister David Cameron.

But when it came to vote England were surprisingly knocked out in the first round as Russia fought off competition from joint bids from Spain/Portugal and the Netherlands/Belgium.

Barry Bright, vice-chairman of the Football Association and chairman of the Kent FA, was stunned the bid had come fourth after the technical details had been praised by Fifa.

Disappointing

He said: "The bid itself has always been regarded as first class and supported well. If we had gone out at the first vote that would be hugely disappointing. I think the bid team have worked tirelessly. No doubt everyone will come up with something we could have done differently, but they might not actually.

"If you are going to be told by those inspecting your bid that it's at a high level, you just don't know what you have to do to win it."

It was the second time England has missed out on the World Cup in quick succession, after losing out to Germany in the 2006 contest.

Bright believes it will be a long time before the country bids again, but is optimistic the defeat will not have an impact on the sport, both locally and nationally.

He said: "There won't be another chance for many years and by then it will be a totally different generation. The opportunities were there particularly for grassroots football. We have been hoping if we won there would be further funding, but there will still be money for projects in Kent and across the country."

Although no games would have been staged in Kent if England were successful, the biggest direct blow was felt in Dartford.

Princes Park was included in the bid as one of 82 'Team Base Camp Clusters', which would have seen teams use the facility for training during the tournament.

MID NORTH EDITION

ISSN 2042083-8

48

9 772042 083006